

**HISTORICAL  
SKETCHES OF HUDSON.**

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1895

this city, June 11, STEPHEN B. MILLER.

## THE LATE STEPHEN B. MILLER.

"MY SHIPS"—BY STEPHEN B. MILLER.

In days long gone I watched my ships set sail,  
So fleet, so fair, each with such favoring gale,  
That I, hope-filled, sang in a joyous strain,  
"I shall be rich when they come home again!"

It mattered not if they sailed East or West;  
Where they might find me treasures easiest.  
I bade them go, and I my glad refrain  
Still sang, "So rich when they come home again!"

Fast flew the changeful years, nor did one fail  
To find me watching for some homeward sail;  
And other ships I sent to hunt the main,  
And bring my truants back to me again.

No wanderer returned, oft I could see  
Ships richly freighted come, but not to me;  
And in my weary waiting cried, "How vain  
To watch for ships that ne'er may come again!"

To-day still waiting, on the border land  
Of three score years and ten, 'tis mine to stand,  
Seeing the shadows lengthen o'er the plain,  
Catching faint echoes of my lost refrain.

Age dimmed, my wearied eyes keep watch no more,  
My ships lie harbored on "the other shore;"  
Soon I shall greet them and shall find it plain  
Why none of them returned to me again.

I wait the message that shall come to me,  
Bidding me go to them across the sea;  
My unrest o'er—this then shall be my strain:  
"So rich, for I have found my ships again!"

STEPHEN B. MILLER, the courteous gentleman, the poet, the historian, has left the shore touched by the mysterious sea that never yet has borne on any wave the image of a homeward sail. Were every one who honored him to bring a blossom to his grave, he would sleep to-night beneath a wilderness of flowers. To write the story of his life, of what he has accomplished as citizen and man of business, of what he has done in the field of literature, or how out of a tangled past he knit up the dropped stitches of our city's history, preserving to future generations records that are priceless, would be a most difficult task, as few know the immense amount of labor done, or work accomplished by him, yet do what we may, naught can heighten one beautiful color of his nature or soften one simplicity of his character. What one of us has not known him and been proud of his friendship? Who of us has not read and re-read the products of his pen, charmed by the music of the measure or touched by the purity of the sentiment? Who of us to-day would have known the corner-stones of our municipality had he not gathered up the memorabilia of our forefathers, and arranged them in chronological sequence? To Stephen B. Miller this city owes a debt of gratitude too long unpaid.

Mr. Miller was a man of rare cultivation and refinement. Retiring in nature he still possessed in large measure the qualities that make men. He was decidedly and eminently practical, a judge of means to ends. He saw things as they were, in their true and real light. No illusions, no phantoms, no charms, no mirages, deceived his clear sight and sense; his moral qualities always in the ascendant—honor, fidelity, truth, courage, conscience, were ever with him and of him. He believed in what was true; he loved what was honorable; he practised what was just. No man ever more faithfully followed his convictions of right. He scorned, as he was free from, all artifices. He moved on straight lines from point to point and in all things, and at all times bore himself directly and erectly. Evasion, equivocation, indirection, found not one particle of favor in his upright nature, and to these qualities he united the high sentiments of generosity, magnanimity and sympathy for his fellow man.

Mr. Miller was born in this city in the year 1823. His early education was acquired in the local schools, he eventually graduating with honor from the Lenox (Mass.) Academy. Soon after he entered the law office of Judge Josiah Sutherland, and on receiving his certificate began the practice of law. Ill health in a few years compelled him to retire from the bar, when he entered the book-store of his brother-in-law, Peter S. Wyncoop. After numerous changes the business passed entirely into Mr. Miller's hands, and for years he has been identified as the leading book-man of our county. Mr. Miller never held public office. In 1876 he was nominated for County Treasurer on the Democratic ticket, but was defeated by Mr. Charles W. Hinsdale.

To recapitulate Mr. Miller's literary work would at this time be impossible. His most noteworthy efforts are "A History of the City of Hudson," "A History of the Reformed Church in the City of Hudson," and a lecture delivered before the Historical Society. I felt a little closed door again disappeared through the murky cellar. I went down, and I must admit ascend into the murky cellar. us and evidently waiting for us to the smiling Georgian gentleman, face blackness. There at the bottom thrust it forward, to peer into stairs. I held the candle high, safe, and pointed to a dark spot. He took me to the end of the

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off

## GENEALOGY COLLECTION



## STEPHEN B. MILLER.

### Widespread Sorrow Over His Death Felt in the Community.

The announcement made in the REPUBLICAN Wednesday morning, 12th, that STEPHEN B. MILLER, one of our most prominent and esteemed citizens, had passed away at a late hour on Tuesday night, caused more widespread sorrow over the death of a private citizen than has been felt in this community for years.

To him as a historian and a citizen we owe much, and it is fitting that we pay a well merited tribute to his distinction and uprightness of life. He took an earnest pride in his work of collecting and preserving whatever was of interest respecting the history of this city, and it is gratifying to know that these records are carefully kept that future generations may appreciate their value and the work of the compiler.

It is of him as a private citizen that it is difficult to express in words the full measure of reverence. His was a lovable character in all respects. His life was a pure one in thought and deed. He was kindness itself. Envy, malice, vindictiveness and retaliation were not harbored or indulged in by him, but to all, without regard to their position, pecuniary, political or social, he was affable, and he met all with a kindly smile and a warm, hearty greeting, tempered by his kindly feeling.

A great and good man has gone in the death of STEPHEN B. MILLER, and it remains for those who are left to emulate him in the qualities which exalted him and made him respected and loved by all who knew him.

## SOMEWHERE.

### "Not Dead, but Sleeping."

BY STEPHEN B. MILLER.

Why do we call this, "city of the dead" ?  
If they, who rest within its sacred keeping,  
Whom we pass by with hushed and reverent tread,  
*Somewhere* are sleeping,

Why hither bring we oft our flowers fair,  
So oft the tribute of our tears are giving ?  
But that we hope our loved and lost ones are,  
*Somewhere*, still living.

Why do we o'er them sculptured marbles rear ?  
When they are gone our constancy still proving,  
But that they know *somewhere*—per chance  
so near—  
We yet are loving.

These grassy mounds do not our dead enfold,  
But this sweet truth to us are ever telling;  
Our Father's house, *somewhere*, doth mansions hold,  
Where they are dwelling.

And from this new, glad spring-life comes a voice,  
Mingling its song and sunshine with our weeping:

"Not dead, *somewhere*, your dear ones sleep,  
rejoice!

Safe in His keeping."

HUDSON CEMETERY, May 20, 1892.

The above beautiful verse from the pen of the late Stephen B. Miller will touch a responsive chord in every heart. So retiring was he in disposition, so secretive of his poetic essays, that to few was it given to know how much was in his soul. Music and poetry were parts of his nature, making up to the full, the harmony of his life.

A strong point in Mr. Miller's character was his attachment to his friends. he seeming to act upon the advice of Polonius to Laertes—

"The friends thou hast and their affection tried,  
Grapple them to thy soul with hoops of steel."

The faithfulness of this friendship was often subjected to the severest test and found to ring pure gold. In life he made no enemies; his kindnesses left him no remorse, but crowned his last hours with blessings; his upright walk in the path of duty left no bitterness of spirit. No consciousness of wrong inflicted or trust betrayed, or obligation undischarged, or unjust word to be recalled, could have clouded his eyes as they gazed upon the eternal shores whither he was drifting. Undoubtedly he could contemplate the past and the future with more serenity of soul than had his life been full of fierce aggression and polemic strife.

Sculptured urn and crumpling granite may mark his resting place, but his best monument will be the enduring story of his life, untarnished by a single blot on the escutcheon of his character. Though dead, he will still live, and we may believe that—

"— ever near us though unseen,  
The dear immortal spirits tread,  
For all the boundless universe  
Is life—there are no dead."

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*Arnold Wilson*  
*Edmont.*

HISTORICAL

SKETCHES OF HUDSON,

NEW YORK

EMBRACING THE

SETTLEMENT OF THE CITY,

CITY GOVERNMENT,

BUSINESS ENTERPRISES, CHURCHES, PRESS, SCHOOLS,

LIBRARIES, &C.

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BY STEPHEN B. MILLER.

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HUDSON:  
BRYAN & WEBB PRINTERS,  
1862.



## INTRODUCTION.

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The collection of the facts embodied in the following Sketches was undertaken as a matter of amusement. That they appear in the present extended form of a Series, is due to the interest manifested in their preparation by those to whom the writer has necessarily looked for assistance. The task has been a pleasant one, yet attended with difficulties. Besides the recollections of the few old citizens living, few sources of information were available. Nothing has been attempted, beyond a plain and connected statement of facts relative to the settlement of Hudson, (to some extent connecting them with the present,) undertaken in a desire to preserve much which a few years hence could not be collected. They are published in the hope that they may prove of interest, and, although perhaps incomplete, may, at least at some future day, serve as the foundation for a more perfect work.

THE AUTHOR.

## SKETCHES OF HUDSON.

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CITY OF HUDSON. 1138967

The City of Hudson was originally embraced within the limits of the town of Claverack, which until the year 1786, continued to be a portion of Albany County, the County of Columbia having been formed in that year.

Claverack was settled by Dutch, for the most part from Holland, at a very early date; the organization of the first Ref. Dutch Church dating as far back as 1716, in which the services continued to be in the Dutch language for nearly a century after. We have two different versions of the meaning of its name. One is that the bluffs fronting upon the river were called the "*Klauvers*" or Clovers, and as the limits of the town extended to these bluffs, it was called "*Klauver-rack*," meaning Clover-reach. The other, which is given by the late Judge Miller, of Claverack, who should be deemed good authority, is that upon the river were four cliffs, or "*Klaufs*" in Dutch, and upon the easterly limits of the town were four more, hence it was called "*Klauffer-acht*," meaning eight cliffs or hills. It remained the County seat of Columbia County until the year 1805, when it was changed to Hudson, under an act entitled "An act altering the place for holding the Courts in the County of Columbia." The present fine residence of Peter Hoffman, Esq., in Claverack village, was at that period the Court House, and in its immediate vicinity stood the County Jail, a somewhat small structure of heavy, squared timber, strongly bolted with iron. Hudson was at the date of its settlement known as Claverack Landing, and among the names of the residents here at that time, we find mention made of Peter Hogeboom, John Van Allen, Justus Van Hoesen, Peter Van Hoesen, Casper Huyck, John, Jacob, Jonathan and Leonard Hardick. There were two stores kept, each having a sloop landing connected with it. One of these stood where now is the freighting establishment of Messrs. Haviland, Clark & Co., kept by Col. John Van Allen, whose dwelling, a brick house with the high pointed Dutch gable of that day, stood where now is the residence and store of Mr. Geo. C. Hubbel. The other, kept by Peter Hogeboom, was upon the site of the present freighting establishment of Messrs. Power, Bogardus & Co., his house being nearly opposite, a short distance to the South, upon what was then the County road, afterwards Ferry street. There was a canoe ferry, kept by Conrad Flock, start-

ing from the site of the present ferry dock, and running to Loonenburg, now known as the "upper purchase" of Athens, which was also a Dutch settlement of a very early date, mention being made of a tannery in operation there in the year 1750. A single canoe was used for passengers, and two were lashed together when teams were to cross, the wagons being fastened upon the canoes, while the horses were tied to them and compelled to swim. The inhabitants at the landing were accustomed to attend religious worship at Loonenburg; some of them were officers in the Lutheran Church at that place. One individual is still living in the city who, when a boy, regularly crossed upon the Sabbath to attend service there. The landing of the ferry upon the West side was in the vicinity of the rock, now known as the "Swallow rock." The "County road" referred to commenced at the ferry, running up the present line of Allen street, to a point near the District School house, thence over to and up the line of Partition street, to the present head of the city, then crossing the square and out of the city.

#### BURIAL GROUND.

Very near the site of the school house in the 1st District, was the private burial ground of Justus Van Hoesen, whose death, with that of his wife at the same time, from being poisoned by arsenic, a few years after the settlement of the city, occasioned great excitement. It was also used for interments, by the families living at the landing, but with the opening of a new one at the head of the town shortly after the purchase, its use was discontinued. A few interments were also made by the new settlers, upon the hill on the North side of the city, where now stands the residence of F. Farrand, simply as a matter of convenience, until selection of a suitable spot for general use could be made. The bodies were subsequently removed.

The ground for a new burial place was given to the proprietors by Col. John Van Allen. Daniel Paddock and Cotton Gelston, having been appointed by the proprietors a committee to make selection of a lot for that purpose, called upon Col. Van Allen for advice and assistance. After viewing several different localities they settled upon the site of the present ground, and asked Col. Van Allen his price for four or five acres. He replied that he would give that quantity to the proprietors, to be used as a burial ground forever, and for no other purpose. Additions have since been made, and the ground is now of much greater extent than as originally given. We credit modern times with the custom of choosing for the burial of the dead quiet and secluded spots, amid the beautiful surroundings of nature. It is a little remarkable, that at that early day a spot made so attractive by the hand of nature, and so far from



the scenes of active life, should have been selected. A portion of the ground was set apart, to be used exclusively by the Society of Friends or Quakers. The first person buried in the new ground was Phebe, the wife of Benjamin Folger. The first man buried, was Col. Van Allen himself, who died in the year 1784. He returned from the funeral of Mrs. Folger and in conversation with his wife relative to it, remarked, "poor Mrs. Folger lays there alone." He was then in good health, but within ten days was placed very nearly by the side of "poor Mrs. Folger." A substantial monument to his memory has been recently erected by the City, bearing the following inscription :

"He was a man of strong mind and liberal heart. He took an active part in the first settlement of Hudson, was the donor of the original burying ground, and the third person buried therein."

The original ground is that portion first entered from the small gate. Very near the entrance well preserved stones point out the resting places of the Jenkins's, Gelston and others, with whom we shall become familiar in the progress of these Sketches. Standing by their graves, it seemed to the writer but a brief period since they first entered the waters of the beautiful river, glittering in the distance. They are resting, and borne upon the stillness of the morning air, came the shrill whistling of the steam, the sound of bells upon the water, mingled with the noise of the city which will long remain a monument, less perishable than marble, to their virtues and enterprise. Beyond their tombs is an open space, where there is but little more than slight elevations of ground, and a few scattered remnants of crumbling brown stones, covered with the mosses of age, tottering, ready to fall beneath the hand of time, to tell where sleep many who three score years ago were active in these streets. What, sixty years hence, will perpetuate the memory of those who, to-day, are the busy, moving throng? It has been truly said, that in the appearance of a buryal ground can be read the character of any community, and that indifference to the resting place of its dead, is an evidence of the lack of enterprise among the living of any place. For years, when Hudson was depressed, the burial ground bore evidence of the fact. With a returning spirit of enterprise, it was enlarged, beautified and to-day is pointed to with pride by its citizens, and sought by crowds, who love to linger in its pleasant, shaded walks, and drink in the loveliness of the views it affords.

In addition to the two stores mentioned, Peter Hogeboom also kept a grist mill in the hollow now known as "Spaulding's Hollow." Of the remainder of the inhabitants, some were farmers and others were engaged in fishing, principally for herring, which found a ready market in New York.

Such was Hudson, or "Claverack Landing, from all the information we have

been able to gather concerning it, at the time of its purchase by the colony from Nantucket and Providence.

#### PROPRIETORS' ASSOCIATION.

At an early period of the Revolution, the whale fisheries of Nantucket were broken up by the English Marine. In the year 1783, a considerable number of the inhabitants of the island, desirous of bettering their fortunes, determined to leave it and make a settlement somewhere upon the Hudson River. The enterprise doubtless originated at Providence, but was joined by others from Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard. Thomas Jenkins, to whom more than any other individual it owed its success, although a native of Nantucket, was at the time a resident of the city of Providence, and a wealthy merchant. In the Spring of 1783 he formed an association, to consist of not more than thirty members, all of whom should be merchants, or "concerned in navigating the deep." It was joined in Providence by Thomas and Seth Jenkins, David Lawrence, Hezekiah Dayton, Nathaniel Greene, Samuel Mansfield, William Wall, John Thurston, John Alsop and Cotton Gelston. In July, 1783, Cotton Gelston proceeded to Nantucket, where it was joined by Stephen Paddock, Joseph Barnard, Charles Jenkins, Deborah Jenkins, Gideon Gardner, Reuben Folger, Alexander Coffin, Benjamin Hussey, Shubael Worth, Paul Hussey, Benjamin Folger, Reuben Macy, Walter Folger, Benjamin Starbuck and John Cartwright. The two last named did not however come with the others. On his return Mr. Gelston stopped at Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, where Marshal and Lemuel Jenkins, Peleg Clark and John Allen, also united with the enterprise. At Newport it was joined by William Minturn. Ezra Reed and Titus Morgan joined it after they had purchased Claverack Landing.

The articles of agreement subscribed by them were the following :

#### ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT.

We, the subscribers, being joint proprietors of a certain Tract of Land lying at Claverack Landing on the banks of the Hudson River, purchased by Thomas Jenkins of Peter Hogeboom, Junr., and others, for the purpose of establishing a commercial settlement, on principles of equity, do enter into the following Articles of Agreement, to-wit :—

#### ARTICLE THE FIRST.

That each proprietor subscribe for such part of the above Tract, in proportion as near as may be to his Stock in Trade, with the others concerned.

#### ARTICLE THE SECOND.

No person shall be permitted to purchase lands within two miles of the said landing, unless he shall give the Proprietors the refusal thereof at the rates at which he himself purchased it.

ARTICLE THIRD.

That each and every one of the proprietors shall settle there in person and carry his Trading Stock on or before the first day of October, A. Dom., one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, unless prevented by some unavoidable event that shall be esteemed a sufficient reason by some of the proprietors for his non-compliance, and his going immediately after that obstruction is removed. In case of Death his heirs, executors or administrators, with fully complying with these Articles, shall be entitled to the same privileges as other proprietors.

ARTICLE FOURTH.

That no person be permitted to dispose of his share who has not fully complied with these Articles, but said share revert to the other Proprietors, they paying the first cost of said share without interest, and that the proprietors, which have complied with the foregoing, shall hold possession of lands according to their several proportions.

ARTICLE FIFTH.

That no proprietor be permitted to enter any building on any proprietor's land, until it shall be divided, and they shall be subjected to such regulations as shall be hereafter made for regulating the Streets, Lanes, Highways, Gangways, &c.

ARTICLE SIXTH.

That we further agree that if any one or more shall forfeit the right of his or their interest in the aforementioned lands, according to the true intent and meaning of the preceding articles, that he or they, shall if furnished with Deeds or other Instruments of conveyance from Thomas Jenkins, give up the same to the Proprietors, or furnish them with a clear Deed or Deeds of all their right, title and interest in said lands, they paying such person or persons the first cost as described in article fourth.

ARTICLE SEVENTH.

That the subscribers do solemnly agree to abide by the preceding Articles and regulations, and that this Instrument be signed and sealed by each individual proprietor, and the original be lodged in the hands of the Proprietor's Clerk.

Stephen Paddock,  
Joseph Barnard,  
Benjamin Folger,  
Seth Jenkins,  
William Wall,  
Hezekiah Dayton,  
David Lawrence,  
Titus Morgan,  
Reuben Folger,

Thomas Jenkins,  
Reuben Macy,  
Cotton Gelston,  
John Alsop,  
Charles Jenkins,  
Ezra Reed,  
Gideon Gardner,  
John Thurston,  
Nathaniel Greene.

Where these articles of agreement were executed does not appear. It is said the original were dated at Providence. All the proprietors do not appear to have signed them. This is explained by the fact that two or three did not continue members, and the shares of some were included and covered by the signatures of the other proprietors.

For the purpose of selecting a suitable site, a committee was chosen by



them, and sent, probably in the summer of 1783, to sail up the river and examine different localities. Thomas Jenkins and Cotton Gelston were a part of that committee, with two others whose names we do not know, nor do we know whether they were empowered to effect a purchase, or to what extent they proceeded in a negotiation, before reporting to the Islanders. We have not been able to get back of the fact of such committee being sent. They were urged at New York by Col. Rutgers to make a purchase upon the East River, and came near doing so. They tarried, too, at Poughkeepsie, with a view of purchasing, but desirous of making a full examination of the river, proceeded, and finally made selection of Claverack Landing; as the site of the "future city." The purchase when made was in the name of Thomas Jenkins, and by him the lands deeded to the other proprietors. Five hundred pounds was paid down as part of the purchase money. What decided them in their selection, does not appear—probably the natural beauty of the position, connected with the fact that it was in the vicinity of a tolerably thickly settled and thriving farming population and at the head of ship navigation. Notwithstanding the early success of the enterprise, the selection in after years proved not to have been judicious. It has always been contended by many, that had the location of the settlement been upon the West side of the river the career of its prosperity could not have been checked, and Hudson could not have failed to become what Albany now is. Of the correctness of this view it is not the province of the writer to speak. Whatever may be said of the position in a business point of view, it is not surpassed by any upon the river for healthfulness and the beauty of the scenery surrounding it. The sagacity of those "men of old," may have been at fault, but let us be grateful to them, at least, that they have made us a "city upon an hill," with the beautiful and grand in nature upon every side of us.

In the fall of 1783, two families arrived here from Nantucket. It would be interesting to know who those "first families" were, but we have been able to ascertain only one of them, that was the family of Seth Jenkins. The first child born after the purchase was Elizabeth Bunker, who died while young. She belonged to a family who appear to have left Nantucket some years previous and settled in Dutchess County, coming to Hudson as soon as they heard of the purchase. In the Spring of 1784, the other proprietors followed with their families, bringing with them several vessels, and in some instances the frames of dwellings, prepared at Nantucket, for erection upon their arrival. One of those houses, at least, was standing in the lower part of North Front street until within a very few years since, and its frame is believed to be still a portion of a dwelling since erected upon the spot. It was brought by

Stephen Paddock. When Mr. Paddock arrived with his family, Col. Van Allen went on board of his vessel and offered them the hospitality of his house which they accepted, Mr. Paddock remarking "if that was a sample of the Dutch, they were in a happy land." The proprietors afterwards found in Col. Van Allen a warm friend. He was a man of noble feelings and a well cultivated mind. In stature he was large and well formed, and true to his Dutch taste, wore at that time a bright red coat. After his death and the purchase of his land was completed with his widow, the proprietors presented to her a house lot upon the Southerly side of Main street, where she built a house and resided until 1787. It was then occupied by Ambrose Spencer, and in it John C. Spencer was born. Its precise locality cannot be fixed.

It is said, at first the proprietors encountered opposition from individuals in Claverack and Kinderhook, who endeavored in various ways to hinder their progress, probably foreseeing that one result of the new settlement would be to take from Claverack its position as the seat of the County buildings. Not understanding the Dutch language, the proprietors employed in the double capacity of book-keeper and *spy*, an individual who did, that they might be able to counteract all efforts made to injure them. It is related that "they found warm friends in the Ten Broecks, Delematers, Huyck and Elting, and the Millers and Hogebooms were not hostile."

#### PROPRIETORS' MINUTES.

From the minutes of the proceedings of the proprietors, we gather the following facts, not without interest, it is thought, as showing their progress, and the labors and duties put upon individual proprietors. Each seems in some way to have borne his share of the toil necessary to a successful fulfillment of the enterprise :

1784, May 14th. The proprietors held their first meeting at the house of Seth Jenkins, and voted to proceed to elect such officers as were necessary to regulate their internal measures, so far as their land extended. David Lawrence was chosen Moderator of the meeting ; Reuben Folger, Clerk for one year. Seth Jenkins, John Thurston, Daniel Paddock, Joseph Barnard, Thomas Jenkins, Gideon Gardner and David Lawrence were appointed a committee "to regulate streets, and to attend in a particular manner to the fixing the buildings uniformly."

It was also voted, "that no person should fix his house without such direction from a majority of the committee as they might think proper ;" and that "no person should extend his steps more than four feet from his door or seller ways."

Samuel Mansfield, Gideon Gardner and John Thurston were appointed a committee to view fences.

1784, May 15th. Alex. Coffin, David Lawrence, Chas. Jenkins and Hezekiah Dayton were appointed a committee "to lay out, sell or lease to David Bunker and Redwood Easton, a convenient lot for a tan yard."

They reported, that they had sold one quarter of an acre near Peter Hogeboom's grist mill, with benefit of the mill stream, for \$40, payable \$10 per annum."

1784, May 17th. Cotton Gelston was voted Treasurer. Five proprietors were authorized to call a meeting, by making application in writing to the Clerk.

1784, June 2d. It was voted that a number of persons should be employed "to dig on the hill in the direction of Main street, in order to open a way to the river, and procure stone for the proprietors."

This was probably the opening of South Front street.

Gideon Gardner was appointed "to superintend that business."

The portion of the city first occupied, was that nearest the landing. The first houses built, were the old building, for many years known as the Swain house, standing upon the North side of Franklin Square, and the house adjoining. These were built by Seth Jenkins and John Alsop.

The first house in Main street was built by Peter Barnard, upon the site of the present residence of Ansel McKinstry, Esq. Below it were corn-fields and orchards.

It is recorded of Peter Barnard, "that he was one of the kindest hearted, best tempered and happiest men that ever lived. Though poor and earning his bread by the sweat of his brow, no prince was richer and no king ever sat upon his throne more contentedly than Peter sat upon his trucks."

The first store was opened by Cotton Gelston.

1784, June 28th. They voted that a house be immediately built at the expense of the proprietors, 20 feet by 30, to be appropriated for a Market House and that Daniel Paddock superintend such building."

This was the establishment of the first or lower market.

1784, Sept. 2d. It was voted "that the three wells be stoned and masoned up." Gideon Gardner, Cotton Gelston, Daniel Paddock appointed committee "to superintend that business."

The "three wells" were probably three reservoirs, then commenced, one of which is afterwards spoken of as the well in Third street," another in the vicinity of Second street and the third near the market house. They continued to term them "wells" for many years afterwards.



1784, Oct. 24th. It was voted, "that a bridge be built over the great hollow in Main street, with stone buttments." Seth Jenkins was appointed to superintend the work.

The bridge was located in front of the present store of James Clark.

1784, Oct. 24. They voted, "that Thomas Jenkins have privilege to erect a hay scale at his own cost on Market Square, (lower market) for five years, he promising not to exact more than 1s. 6d. per load for weighing."

1784, Nov. 14th. It was unanimously agreed by the proprietors that "in-futer it should be called by the name of Hudson."

We have no account of any debate on the change of name, or the suggestion by the proprietors of any other name than that given. Gov. Clinton suggested and was desirous that the settlement should be called Clinton, and was displeased that the name met with no favor among the proprietors.

1784, Nov. 23d. Thomas Jenkins, David Lawrence and Gideon Gardner were appointed a committee "to wait on Col. John Van Allen, impowered by the proprietors to purchase his real estate for £2500, and one-thirtieth interest in the first purchase made."

It would seem from this that all the property at the landing was not included in the first purchase. Col. Van Allen having died, the same committee were appointed "to ascertain from the widow Van Allen whether her late husband had left her power to ratify the bargain, if so to get writings drawn and executed immediately."

This property was the house and store and landing before referred to, with all the land lying between Ferry street and the bay, and running easterly to Front street.

#### INCORPORATION.

1785, Feb. 17th. It was voted that a "petition be draughted to be laid before the Legislative authority of the State, for the purpose of getting ourselves incorporated, with city privileges."

Ezekiel Gilbert, John Thurston, Ezra Reed, and Seth Jenkins were appointed a committee to draught the same.

Seth Jenkins, Gen. Van Rensselaer, John Thurston, Ezekiel Gilbert were appointed to repair to New York as soon as convenient and present the same before the General Assembly then in session, and use their utmost influence to get it passed immediately.

On the 22d day of April, 1785, the Act of incorporation passed, and Hudson became a city, the third in the State. The territory of the city, as chartered, extended from the line of the town of Livingston on the South, to

Major Abraham's (Stockport) creek on the North, and Claverack creek on the East. A portion of the town of Stockport was taken off in 1833, and the town of Greenport in 1837, leaving Hudson with but very little more territory than that now embraced within the compact portion of the city.

The news of the passage of the act incorporating the city, occasioned great joy. On the 4th day of May, Mr. Gilbert arrived from New York, bringing with him the charter of the city and the appointment of Seth Jenkins by the Governor and Council as Mayor. Its reception was attended with the firing of cannon, raising of flags, and every other possible demonstration of gratification, by the citizens. On the day following the arrival of Mr. Gilbert, Seth Jenkins issued his proclamation announcing the incorporation of the city, his appointment as Mayor, and calling upon all the freemen within the limits of the city, to meet at the school house, a small frame building then standing upon the county road near the river, on the Monday following, (the 9th day of May) to choose necessary officers and to transact other important business. This was Hudson's first charter election, but it was conducted without a contest. We can find no statement of the vote cast, nor do we know the population at that time, but the city grew with great rapidity, and from 1785 to 1786, one hundred and fifty dwellings, besides wharves, barns, shops and out-houses were built.

1785, July 25th. They voted "that one house lot on Main street should be given to Ezekiel Gilbert as a free donation for his essential services done the proprietors in bringing about the incorporation of this city." The lot given was lot number 62 Warren street, as at present numbered.

1785, April 8th. It was voted that Thomas Jenkins and David Lawrence be a committee to name the streets; also that Diamond street be put in a passable condition, and that the proprietors should send as many men as convenient, until there were a sufficient number to work them, and on producing a certificate to Titus Morgan they should be entitled to receive *four shillings per day*.

1785, April 19th. They voted that a lot 50 by 120 feet on Diamond street should be granted to any person or persons who would build a school house, not less than 40 feet by 24, such persons not to receive more than nine per cent. on the cost of the building for the use of it, and to have the power to sell it to the corporation at large, for their own use, whenever they had opportunity so to do, and that it should continue to be used for a School house for every description and denomination of people then settled or which should thereafter settle here.

Shortly after its erection Joseph Marshall, who styled himself the "public's humble servant," gave notice that he designed opening a school in the Diamond street School house, from 5 to 7 o'clock P. M. each day, for the instruction of "Misses" in writing, cyphering, composition, English grammar and geography. The old school house, no longer a nursery for the young ideas of "Misses," is still standing, moved to the lower part of Chapel street.

1785, June 19th. A committee was appointed to conclude upon a plan for a proprietor's school house on Market Square.

1785, June 9th. Land was granted to the corporation for the erection of a Gaol "on the N. E. corner of the northermost square on Fourth street."

The Gaol was constructed of logs, with iron grates at the windows, and stood very nearly upon the site of the present blacksmith shop of Thomas Tynan. It was reached by a foot path through the field from Main street, Fourth street not yet having been opened. It is said of this Gaol, that almost the first prisoner confined in it concealed an auger upon his person, bored through the logs and escaped.

The City Hall was erected nearly opposite the Gaol, upon the present site of the Presbyterian Church, which was then called the "upper end of Main street." It was commenced in the year 1786, but remained for years unfinished, the lower part being used at one time for the storing of hay, and was not completed until there was a certainty that Hudson would become the seat of the County Courts. It was a square brick building, in the very plainest style of architecture, two stories in height, the upper part capable of accommodating four hundred people, being used for public purposes, and the lower part for offices, and for some years a school room. In the year 1805, when Hudson became the County seat, the Common Council appropriated it to the County to be used as a Court House, voting also the sum of \$2000, and a lot of land, for the erection of a new jail, which was ready for the reception of prisoners in the month of October, in that year. The present office of the *Hudson Gazette* was the building then erected as the "County prison." The Court House was occupied by each religious organization in its infancy, and still continued to be used for all public gatherings until its purchase by the Presbyterian Society, from which time until the erection of the present fine structure, Hudson was destitute of a room for public use, in the least degree comfortable or adequate to the wants of its citizens.

1806, Jan. 11th. Benjamin Birdsall was voted by the Common Council forty dollars for his services as committee-man in procuring a change of the County seat.



The present Court House and Jail were erected in the year 1835, at a cost of \$35,000, under the direction of James Mellen, Henry C. Miller, John W. Edmonds, John P. Mesick, Jehoiakim A. Van Valkenburgh.

1785, June 9th. A committee was appointed to lay out plot, &c., of the city. The plot embraced Union, Main, Diamond and State streets, with Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth streets crossing them. First street was not opened until many years after.

1785, Dec. 30th. One house lot was voted to Cotton Gelston for his trouble in laying out plot of the city.

#### PARADE HILL, ETC.

1795, March 9th. It was voted "that the certain piece of land, known by the name of the Parade, or Mall, in front of Main street, and on the banks fronting the river, should be granted to the Common Council forever, as a public walk or Mall, and for no other purpose whatever."

The "Mall" remained in an unimproved condition for many years, except the erection upon it of a house for the sale of "refreshments." This was octagon in shape, the lower part used as a saloon for "refreshments," the upper part surrounded by a covered piazza, affording a beautiful lookout upon the river, and a flag staff surmounting the building. It was called the "Round-house," and the hill until its improvement in 1834, was called the "Round-house hill." It was in that year enclosed, laid out into walks, the house, which had become a nuisance, removed, and after the suggestion through the press of many very fanciful names, was given its present name of "Parade Hill."

Near the Southern end of the hill, visitors cannot have failed to notice a small circular grove of trees, called "lovers' retreat." These were planted, it is said, to mark the location of a rock known in the early days of the city as "Love rock," and the spot, were "by moon-light alone," a large proportion of the marriage contracts of our Quaker ancestors were "made and entered into." During the improvement of the hill, when the rock was levelled, a writer in one of the city papers thus alludes to it :

"Could that rock speak, what then ?—but it is gone—years had it stood.—men among us whose heads are white with the snow-flakes of time, have sat upon it with the buoyant passions of youth. Women who can scarce raise their feeble limbs, have leaped in glorious glee around its base. How many bright moons have shed their light upon it, how many a strain of music melted away in the air above it, how many brilliant thoughts have there been indulged. We have sat there ourselves and might tell many curious things about it, but have given already sufficient flight to our imagination. We would say to the rock, if it had a soul, 'peace to it.'"

Rocks, like dead men, tell no tales. *Could* "Love rock" speak, it would doubtless give us many touching revelations.

In 1795, the proprietors, upon the petition of Marshal Jenkins and Samuel Edmonds, granted a lot of land upon the corner of Union and Third streets to the Society "called Free Masons," for the purpose of erecting a building thereon suitable for their use. It was to be built upon within two years or the land "should devolve to the Council for the use of the corporation." The building was to be fifty by twenty-five feet in size, and it was a condition of the grant that it should never be used as a tavern. "The Lodge," as it was called, was deemed an "ornament" to the city, as originally erected. It was partially destroyed by fire about thirty-five years ago, on the 4th of July, and the present St. John's Hall built upon the ruins. As early as 1787, we find the Masons celebrating the festival of St. John by a dinner and an oration. Previous to the erection of the "Lodge" it was the custom to hold their meetings at some one of the public houses.

In the war of 1812, the lower part of the Hall was used as barracks for soldiers who enlisted under Capt. Smith, of the U. S. Light Dragoons, and Lieut. Theophilus E. Beekman, recruiting officers. It was this service that first brought Mr. Beekman to this city, of which he was long after a resident. During a row among the soldiers in the barracks, which he endeavored to quell, he received an injury for which he afterwards drew a pension.

1795, March 9th. Proprietors deeded to the Common Council the lots upon which the Gaol and City Hall stood, other lots in different parts of the city, all the streets and lands not theretofore appropriated, to be opened by them at their discretion, whenever it would benefit the public; also the burial ground presented to the proprietors, excepting such part as was enclosed by the Society of Friends and to be conveyed to them.

1810, May 23d. The last meeting of the proprietors was held, Stephen Paddock Moderator, Erastus Pratt Clerk. Provision had been previously made for the delivery of the proprietors' books, plot of the city, etc., to the Clerk of the city, and for a passage of a law by the Legislature, for a confirmation of all the divisions made by them. Their meetings had been more frequent than these extracts indicate, but the proceedings related principally to the disposition and exchange of their lots or "public squares" as they termed them, and to the laying out of the "public roads," or streets.

In all the proceedings we find mention but two or three times made of their financial condition, but it is evident, from these, that the "wheels of finance" did not run perfectly smooth, as they speak at one time of being considerably pressed, and advised the disposition of certain lots for relief.

We have as yet had no glimpse of the government of the city, which at the

date we take leave of the proprietors, already boasted of a population of nearly 5,000. It had attained a position which they had hardly looked or hoped for, although they had brought to bear all their energy and influence to secure its prosperity.

#### THE PROPRIETORS.

No place can claim more for the character of its founders, than can Hudson for its original proprietors. All of them were men of influence, intelligence and activity, and are described, physically, as "stout, well formed, noble looking men." Nearly all of them were possessed of considerable pecuniary means, which they at once employed in such ways as would most encourage the business interests of the place. It is said of the Jenkins family, that they alone brought with them more than a quarter of a million of dollars. They were regarded as the moving spirits in the enterprise, and every species of trade and commerce was for many years successfully carried on by them. Thomas Jenkins is described as uniting the stately, dignified, princely air of an old school gentleman with the address and energy of a man of business, and few like him, it is said, are to be found at the present day, even in the great metropolis itself. When standing on his wharf, with his gold headed cane in his hand, watching and directing the preparations for the sailing of his ships, his air and manner were authoritative, but in feeling he was not in the least degree haughty. His residence, built immediately after the settlement of the city, was that now occupied by P. S. Wynkoop, Esq. as a residence and by the Misses Peake as a Seminary. At the time of its erection it was considered palatial, and as his means enabled him to live in a corresponding style, and which doubtless presented a strong contrast to primitive Quaker simplicity, it is not strange that he was thought even somewhat aristocratic.

Long after emigration had added greatly to the population of the place, and many to the number of its public spirited and enterprising citizens, they continued to exercise a great influence in all its affairs. For over thirty years, with the exception of the short period of two years, the office of Mayor of the city was filled by some member of the Jenkins family. Numerous and influential however as it was at that time, scarce half a dozen of its descendants are at this day residents of the city, to whose early prosperity they so largely contributed, and with whose early history its name is so inseparably connected.

Thomas Jenkins died in New York in the year 1808, leaving four sons, Thomas, Gilbert, Frederick and Elisha, and four daughters. His remains were brought to this city upon a sloop, and buried according to the rites of the Quaker society, in the ground belonging to them. No tombstone was ever placed upon his grave and it cannot now be identified.



Another proprietor of whom we find very frequent mention made is Cotton Gelston, who seems to have been a man of very great activity and energy. He was first treasurer for the proprietors, first postmaster, launched the first ship, opened the first store, was the first surveyor, made the first plot of the city, drew their first deeds; in short seems to have been the "chief scribe" and man-of-all-work, for the proprietors, and from the time he was sent by Thomas Jenkins to Nantucket, to carry out the plan of his association, until his death, was the servant of the city in some capacity. We have been shown a deed, supposed to have been drawn by him, which, although something of a curiosity, being drawn upon a sheet of paper about four feet in length by one in width, as a piece of penmanship, would be considered creditable at the present day, and is remarkable for its particularity of description. Mr. Gelston was a man of medium height, rather stout, with little in his countenance indicative of the force of character he possessed. It is said of him, that he was a man of violent passions and led into frequent difficulties with those around him. In a fit of anger he once knocked down Thomas Jenkins, who was doubtless his best friend. At the last meeting of the proprietors there was much debate as to the proper disposition of the proprietors' minutes, accounts, and other papers. Mr. Gelston was violently opposed to their passing into the possession of the Common Council, and in a moment of excitement made an effort to destroy them by burning. He succeeded in part, but the minutes were taken from him by Gilbert Jenkins, then a young man, after a struggle. There is not a descendant of Mr. Gelston living in Hudson at the present time.

Stephen Paddock, Joseph Barnard, Nathaniel Greene and Alexander Coffin are also prominently spoken of as energetic, active citizens. Beside the Jenkins's and Gelston, but few of the proprietors at first engaged in mercantile pursuits. Several of them were "sea-faring" men, others shortly after their arrival settled upon farms in the vicinity, and some early left the settlement. It has sometimes been remarked, as not a little singular that of some of the proprietors there have never been any since, among the residents of the city, bearing their names. The fact that some of them did not long remain here, will probably explain it. In giving the credit we do to the proprietors for the early prosperity of Hudson, we should not forget the fact, that their efforts were seconded by many, not only from the immediate vicinity but from a distance, who were at once attracted to the enterprise by its bright prospects. Ezekiel Gilbert, who seems very early to have taken an active interest in it, was at the time a resident of Claverack, from which place he moved his law-office in 1785, thus becoming Hudson's first lawyer; first not only in order, but for many years first in ability. Mr. Gilbert was not a man of great talents,

but made himself of great service to Hudson, in its early days. He was Representative in Congress about the year 1790, and through his efforts Hudson was made a port of entry. About the year 1800 he occupied a pleasant country residence standing very nearly upon the site of the public house of S. S. Martin, and gave to the city a portion of the ground for the upper public square, with the intention of having it laid out as a park. He died about twenty years ago, at an advanced age, very infirm, and in somewhat reduced circumstances. Of the firms who were shortly after the settlement so largely engaged in business, the greater part were of those who immediately followed the proprietors.

## CITY GOVERNMENT.

The first meeting of the Common Council was held on the 9th day of May, 1785.

Present—Seth Jenkins, Esq., Mayor; Nathaniel Greene, Esq., Recorder; William Mayhew and Stephen Paddock, Esqs., Aldermen; Dirck Delamater and Marshal Jenkins, Esqs., Assistants.

The following individuals have held the office of Mayor, appointed by the Governor and Council of Appointment:

Seth Jenkins, April, 1785.	Robert Jenkins, February, 1815.
Thomas Jenkins, November, 1793.	John Talman, February, 1820.
Robert Jenkins, February, 1808.	Alexander Coffin, February, 1821.
John Talman, March, 1813.	

## ELECTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL.

Rufus Reed, June, 1823 & 24.	Henry Smith, January, 1833, 34 & 35.
Thomas Bay, January, 1825 & 26.	Robert G. Frary, January, 1836.
Oliver Wiswall, January, 1827 & 28.	Robert McKinstry, January, 1837.
Samuel White, January, 1829.	Allen Jordan, January, 1839.
Samuel Anable, Jan'y, 1830, 31 & 32.	George W. Cook, January, 1840.

## ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE.

Robert G. Frary, April, 1840 & 41.	George H. Power, April, 1852.
Samuel Anable, April, 1842.	Joshua T. Waterman, November 1852.
Charles Darling, April, 1843.	Peter S. Wynkoop, November, 1853.
Cyrus Curtis, April, 1844 & 45.	John C. Dormandy, November, 1854.
Robert G. Frary, April, 1846.	Joshua T. Waterman, November, 1856.
Matthew Mitchell, April, 1847 & 48.	Jacob W. Hoysradt, December, 1858.
Hugh McClellan, April, 1849 & 50.	Samuel Bachman, December, 1860.
Peter S. Burger, April, 1851.	

The only individual now living, who filled the office during the first half century of the existence of the city is Oliver Wiswall, Esq.

The first Recorder of the city, appointed by the Governor and Council was Nathaniel Greene, 1785. His successors have been as follows:

Hezekiah L. Hosmer, 1793.	Joseph D. Monell, 1815.
Levi Wheaton, Jr., 1794.	Ambrose L. Jordan, 1821.
Alexander Coffin, January, 1797.	John W. Edmonds, 1827.
Cotton Gelston, June, 1797.	Darius Peck, 1833.
Elisha Pitkin, 1801.	Robert McClellan, 1843.
David Lawrence, 1802.	Rodolphus P. Skirner, elected, 1849.
Philip S. Parker, 1808.	Stephen L. Magoun, " 1852.
Hezekiah L. Hosmer, 1810.	Elijah Payn, " 1855.
Joseph D. Monell, 1811.	Henry Miller, " 1858 & 9
Hezekiah L. Hosmer, 1813.	Alexander S. Rowley, " 1861.

The first City Clerk was John Bay, 1785.

The first Chamberlain was John Alsop, 1785.

Of all who filled the office of Aldermen during the first fifty years, the following only, are now living in the city :

Oliver Wiswall,	Israel Platt,
Robert A. Barnard,	Henry D. Parkman,
Henry C. Miller,	Benjamin F. Deuell,
Solomon Wescott,	Ansel McKinstry.
Charles Darling,	

For a full list of all the officers of the city from the date of its incorporation, we refer the reader to the Civil List for Columbia County, compiled by Edwin C. Terry, Esq., in 1858.

In August, 1785, a seal for the city was purchased ; Nathaniel Greene, Seth Jenkins, John Bay, Ezra Reed, Stephen Paddock, Benjamin Folger, Dirck Delamater, John Ten Broeck and Peter Hogeboom each contributing eleven shillings and four pence to defray its cost. This seal is still in use, never having been changed.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

From the early minutes of the Council we make the following extracts :

1785, June 7th. Nathaniel Greene, William Wall and Marshal Jenkins were appointed a committee to erect a gaol within the city limits 30 feet long, 20 feet wide, and one story high.

This is the log gaol before mentioned.

1785, July 26th. Abimelech Riggs was appointed keeper of gaol.

#### FERRY.

1785, July 26th. Benjamin Folger, Thomas Jenkins and Ezra Reed were appointed a committee to regulate and rent the ferry, which appears still to have been in the hands of Mr. Flock. The canoe had given place to a boat twenty feet long and very narrow, and sharp at both ends. In order to carry teams across, the horses were placed one at each end of the boat and timbers laid across it, upon which the wagon rested. The ferry did not pass



fully into the control of the city until about the year 1790, when the boat described gave way to a scow with sails, so constructed that teams could enter from either end, and the following rates and regulations had been established :

- “For every single person, except sucking child, 1s. 6*d*.
- “     man, horse, ox, cow, 1s. 6*d*.
- “     loaded wagon or ox cart, 2s. 6*d*.
- “     empty     “     “     1s. 6*d*.
- “     hog or pig under 80 lbs. dead, 4*d*.
- “     “     “     “     alive, 6*d*.
- “     dead sheep or lamb, 3*d*.
- “     live     “     calf, 4*d*.
- “     barrel of rum, sugar and molasses, 6*d*.
- “     pail of butter, 1 penny, firkin or tub, 2*d*.
- “     bushel of wheat, peas or grain 1 penny.”

One half more was charged when compelled on account of low water to go around the flats.

For every neglect to pay, treble the amount of ferriage was to be forfeited. Before sunrise and in the evening, the ferryman was entitled to double rates.

He was to keep two scows, with four able hands to each, and to run constantly from sunrise to sunset, wind and weather permitting, or forfeit twenty shillings for every neglect. On the arrival of the boat at Loonenburgh landing, it was the duty of some one of the ferrymen to blow a shell or trumpet, in order to give immediate notice of such arrival, and to remain there fifteen minutes.

1803, April 14th. Mayor, Recorder and Mr. Power were appointed a committee to confer with the citizens on the west side of the river, respecting a “Canal through the flats.” The “Canal” was not constructed until many years after. In the year 1816, the work was done under the direction of Robert Jenkins, Oliver Wiswall and Judah Paddock, a committee appointed by the Common Council.

The use of scows continued until the spring of the year 1816, when they gave place to the horse-boat, which was built by William Johnson, at a cost of six thousand dollars. Its introduction was a great event in the history of the city, and considered a very decided step forward.

The Mayor and a portion of the Council made a trial trip in it around the flats, when the pilot, not yet accustomed to the management of his new craft, came in collision with a vessel so forcibly as to bring the official party down to a level with the deck. It continued to run, with the exception of an unsuccessful attempt some years ago to sustain a steam ferry, until the present steamboat did away, we trust, forever in these waters with horse flesh as a propelling power for ferries.

1785, July 5th. It was resolved, "That a Stocks and Whipping Post be made and erected nigh the market in this city, and that William Wall, Esq., cause the same to be completed, and that he lay an account of the expenses thereof before this Board, who engage to provide for the payment of the same."

It was a heavy post, deeply set, to which the offender was tied, receiving upon his bare back the number of lashes fixed by the Justice passing the sentence. Its cost was £3, 4s. 11d. The punishment of whipping was inflicted for petty offences. In addition to the whipping, the offender was sometimes sentenced to be driven out of the city. In that case he was tied to the tail of a cart, and commencing at the lower end of Main street, received a certain number of lashes at each corner until the head of the street was reached, where he was set at liberty and directed to leave the limits of the city. The officer inflicting the punishment was called a "whipping master," and received his appointment from the Common Council. Elisha Foote officiated in this capacity for many years.

1785, Aug. 2d. It was ordained "that it should not be lawful for any person or persons whatsoever, to run or gallop his, her or their Horse or Horses through any of the Streets of the said City, and that if any person or persons should be convicted of running or galloping his, her or their Horse or Horses through any of the Streets of said City, he, she or they should, for every such offense, forfeit and pay the sum of six shillings, current money of the State of New York, to be recovered before the Mayor, Recorder, or any of the Aldermen, with Costs of Suit, one half to go to the Informer, the other half to the Overseers of Poor of the City for the use of the poor thereof."

1785, Sept. 7th. "Whereas John Dewitt, late of the city of New York, had run away and left his wife and children :—" it was ordered, "That Mrs. Dewitt, wife of the said John Dewitt, with her children, be sent to the city of New York, the place from whence the said John Dewitt came."

1785, Dec. 5th. Ordinances were passed prohibiting store keepers from throwing glass in the streets, boys from swimming near the ferry landing, also prohibiting any person chopping wood on Main street "with an axe," and the running at large of "any hog or hogs, goose or geese, unless properly yoked."

1786. Daniel Pinkham, Elihu Bunker, John Powell and Shubael Worth were appointed Guagers for one year, to receive 6d per hogshead, "smaller casks in proportion, and no more."

1787, March 1st. Forty-one licenses to sell liquor were granted, for sums varying from eight to sixteen shillings. It is fair to infer *some* liquor was drunk in early times.

Daniel Paddock and Jared Coffin were voted £13, 1s, 6d each for services as assessors for one year.

1787, March 1st. Freelove Clark was ordered to be sent back to Nantucket, and Stephen Paddock was authorized to take proper measures to remove her. It was the custom to send vagrants back to their former place of residence; several instances like the above are reported in the minutes of the Council.

#### NIGHT WATCH.

1788, Jan. 5th. Citizens voluntarily associated themselves into a watch against thieves and fires, and to preserve order in the city at night. Shortly after, the Common Council, deeming it a "salutary institution" ordained that it should consist of four citizens for each night, to begin their watch at 9 o'clock in the evening and continue until day-break. Jonathan Worth was appointed to notify the citizens on the roll, at least twelve hours before they were to come on the watch, and in case of absence or inability, was to supply their places. They were empowered to interrogate any persons out at an unseasonable hour, and unless satisfactory answers were received, to confine them in the watch house until the following morning, when they were taken before the proper officer and discharged or punished. Each man received one dollar a night for his services, and was provided with a heavy oak club, for the double purpose of protection and sounding the hours, which was done by heavy blows upon the posts or side-walk, and crying out with the hour, "all's well." Night locks, window fastenings, iron safes, revolvers, and the numerous other articles of the present day, for protection against burglars, were not yet invented, nor had the need of them been felt. Robberies, however, were frequent and rowdyism not unknown. Stoops were over-turned, gates unhinged, signs misplaced, door-knockers mysteriously worked and many other similar pranks, which we are apt to think peculiarly belonging to a modern period, were nightly played. The press complained loudly of "the disgraceful course certain young men are pursuing," and threatened them with exposure in its columns unless they desisted from their "evil practices." Subsequently the "watch" was efficiently organized and existed for many years. Old citizens are often heard to remark, that they have never since it was abandoned, enjoyed the same pleasant sense of security at night.

1790, Oct. 23d. It was resolved that Stephen Paddock and Thomas Frothingham be a committee to engage and agree with the Printer to strike off one hundred pounds in small bills or notes of credit upon the Corporation. One ream of paper was directed to be furnished of suitable quality, and struck off in



"tickets" to be signed by the clerk of the city, of the value of one, two, three and four cents. There was a scarcity of silver and almost a total absence of "coppers" and these "tickets" circulated freely as "small change."

#### AQUEDUCT COMPANY.

1791, Aug. 30th. It was resolved, "that John Kemper be appointed to take the pump brake and upper box from the public pump, and at the hour of six in the morning, at twelve at noon, and at five in the evening of each day, go with or deliver it to the hands of some careful persons to be carried to the pump, that each of the citizens applying for water might have an equal proportion, and that said brake and box should not be delivered at any other times of the day, until a constant supply of water should be found in the pump."

The "town pump" was located near the lower market.

In the year 1785, several citizens associated themselves together, for the purpose of bringing water into the city to supply themselves and such others "as might be deemed consistent." Each lot-holder was entitled to a share in such association, upon the payment of twenty-five dollars, with the right to take the water from the main pipe which ran through Main street and "carry it into his possessions or house for the supplying of the family or families" which his house contained, but should not be allowed to sell water to his neighbor or any other person. Persons not shareholders were supplied upon the payment of an annual tax. The water first brought in was from the spring known as the Ten Broeck spring, given to them by John Ter Broeck and located upon the farm now the property of the heirs of William E. Heermance. In 1793, they purchased the "Huyck Spring," better known as "the Fountain," situated upon the road leading from Claverack to Hudson. In the year 1789 they presented a petition to the Legislature, stating that they had "at considerable expense brought water into the city by an aqueduct, from a fountain two miles distant," and felt the need of a regular system, to compel shareholders to bear their equal proportion of expenses for repairs, &c. In March, 1790, "An act for the better regulating and protecting the Aqueducts in the city of Hudson" was passed, providing for the election of officers, passage of by-laws and giving to the Common Council the right by ordinance, to fix a penalty not exceeding five pounds for a breach of any of the by-laws of the Company. Hezekiah Dayton was for many years Inspector and Collector, for which service they voted "one shilling per hour when actually engaged." It was the custom of Old Squire Dayton, as he was familiarly called, to detect leaks and waste by entering the cellars of shareholders and listening for the

sound of trickling or dropping water, then reporting offenders at headquarters.

1794, May 10th. Thomas Frothingham, Elisha Jenkins and Jared Coffin, three of the principal men of the place, were appointed Scavengers.

#### BAKERIES.

1794, July 24th. It was ordained that all bread falling short of the established weight or price, should be forfeited to the city for the use of the poor. Thomas Frothingham was appointed an inspector of bread, whose duty it was to thoroughly enforce the ordinance. The established weight and price, which were kept standing conspicuously printed at the head of the *Hudson Gazette*, was as follows :

Loaf of Superfine flour,	3 lbs. 8 oz.,	one shilling.
“ “ “	1 “ 12 “	sixpence.
“ Common “	3 “ 13 “	one shilling.
“ “ “	1 “ 14 “	sixpence.
“ Rye “	3 “ 4 “	sixpence.

Walter Johnson was the principal baker, and carried on the business quite extensively for the supply of ships, upon the corner of Front and Ferry streets. Mrs. Newberry, who kept a small shop further up in Front street, was his rival in the department of cakes and buns, most of which were sold through the streets in baskets. The old lady knew how to protect as well as support herself. An individual once ventured to say something in her shop which she construed into an insult. Stepping up to him she ejected him by a gentle application of her foot, sending a loaf of bread after him in close proximity to his head. He was doubtless after that a better bre(a)d man.

In somewhat later years in the lower part of Union street dwelt Ursula Bunker, better known as “Aunt Usley,” who maintained the dignity of a house full of maiden sisters by carrying on a domestic bakery. No tea table was deemed complete upon great occasions, without a supply of “Aunt Usley’s soft tea biscuit,” “the wonder of the old, the delight of the young.” We believe a “cloud of witnesses” might be found to confirm the statement, that since her day Hudson has seen nothing superior in that line.

1795, March 23d. Jemmy Frazer was appointed bell-man, and paid at the rate of £16 per year. The bell upon the Presbyterian Church was ordered to be rung, at sunrise in the morning, at twelve o’clock at noon, and at nine in the evening, not less than five minutes at any one time on working days, and at nine and ten in the morning, two in the afternoon and nine in the evening on Sunday.

1797, November 3d. Cotton Gelston and Mr. Kellogg were appointed a committee authorized to direct the construction and the placing of a number

of lamps not exceeding twenty in the streets, and to provide a suitable person to light the same upon the dark nights. Three hundred dollars were appropriated for the same by the Council.

1798, May 10th. Recorder Gelston and Samuel Edmonds were appointed a committee to build a fence three boards high, with red cedar posts and a suitable gate around the burying ground, and have the bushes cleared up; and Reuben Folger was directed to procure a suitable lock. The cost of the fence was £84, 5s, and 3d, and of the lock four shillings. Previous to this, little had been done towards placing the ground in a condition suitable for the purpose for which it was given. Up to this time it was reached by a road, through a piece of woods, leading from the County road, (now Green Street,) in the vicinity of Schermerhorn town, a name by which a collection of buildings in that locality was known.

1798, June 10th. Samuel Edmonds and James Nixon were paid three dollars each, "for mending the cover to the well in Third street." This was one of the Reservoirs which we have before referred to.

1799, April 6th. It was resolved, "that in future the Common Council meet on Saturday after the Mayor's Court, in each month, at four o'clock, and that fifteen minutes' grace be allowed from Mr. Parkman's time piece." Up to and for many years after this period, the Council had no regular place of meeting, but met at the different public houses, a sort of *portable* body, like the Government of the rebel Confederacy of modern times. In the year 1815 they met in a bed room, in the tavern of Samuel Bryan, upon the Southwest corner of Warren and Third streets. Robert Jenkins, then Mayor, said that he considered "it a shame that the Common Council of such a city as Hudson should meet in a bed room," and appointed Oliver Wiswall and Jonathan Frary a committee to provide a suitable room in the City Hall, in which shortly after they regularly held their meetings.

1799, June 1st. Elisha Pitkin was authorized to erect a suitable Market House on the jail square, north side of Warren street. This was the second or upper market.

1799, October 10th. The name of Main street was by resolution of the Council changed to Warren. The public were informed of the change, by the following notice chalked upon the fences, which at that time were mostly red and yellow :

*"This street is no longer Main Street, but called Warren by order of the Common Council."*

1799, September 9th. The Mayor was reported absent *in town*, Aldermen



Taylor absent *in town*, the other Aldermen and Assistants absent *out of town*, and the Recorder, "solitary and alone," adjourned the Council to meet on the following day at Russel Kellogg's tavern.

1800, April 7th. Peter Hall was appointed bell man, bell to be rung as usual, to be paid at the rate of thirty-eight dollars per year. Jemmy Frazer was promoted to the office of City Crier, and their respective appointments were ordered to be published in the Hudson Gazette. How Jemmy lost his office we shall learn hereafter. The city crier received "a reward of not less than one shilling for every time of service, and not more than three, agreeable to the exigencies of the weather."

1801, June 14th. Ordinances were passed, regulating the sale of lamb, preventing boys playing ball or hoop in Warren or Front streets, prohibiting the smoking of pipes or cigars in any of the streets or alleys after sunset, and providing for the killing of dogs after the 1st day of August.

1801, July 17th. It was resolved, that no meat should be exposed for sale in the market or elsewhere in the city after the hour of eight o'clock on Sunday morning.

That all barber shops should be shut at the hour of ten o'clock on Sunday morning.

That the Council would aid and assist the Country Magistrates in suppressing all disorderly behavior on Sunday. Justus Van Hoesen, Thomas Frothingham and Cornelius Tobey had previously been appointed a committee "to superintend the execution of the law against Sabbath breaking."

1801, August 5th. Mr. Hathaway was authorized to purchase Daniel Allen's house on State street for the reception of the aged and other poor of the city, for a sum not to exceed \$480. This house is still standing in State street, known as the Underwood house, and was used for the purpose mentioned, until the completion of the building now occupied by the Rev. John B. Hague as a Seminary for young ladies, which was erected as a City Poor House in the year 1818, by Ephraim Baldwin, under the direction of John Tallman, Judah Paddock and Barnabas Waterman as building committee, after a plan drawn by Robert Jenkins. Its cost was five thousand seven hundred dollars. In 1832 it was given up as a poor-house, and a lunatic asylum was established in it by Doct. Samuel White, which continued until the opening of the State Asylum, having received during its continuance three hundred patients.

The first Overseers of the Poor in the city were Cotton Gelston and John Alsop.

1801, August 15th. Erastus Pratt and Reuben Folger were appointed a committee to procure a suitable clock, with three dials, to be placed in the steeple of the Presbyterian Meeting House, and were authorized to loan not exceeding \$200, to be applied with the sum already subscribed and deposited in the Bank for that purpose. The same clock is now placed in the steeple of the old Episcopal church, where "still it moves, but never speaks."

1801, December 9th. Daniel Burnap was paid \$20 in addition to the sum agreed for clock, for additional work. The committee reported that they had placed the clock in the meeting house and had made provision to pay Deborah Jenkins \$200 for borrowed money.

1802, January 3d. Overseers of the Poor were authorized to allow Phebe Cummings \$2,50 per month, if she would take herself and three children out of the city.

1803, April 1st. It was resolved that any member of the Council not appearing within *fifteen minutes* after the hour of meeting, should pay to and for the use of the Council the sum of *fifty cents*; the time always to be determined by the city clock. Mr. Parkman's time piece had ceased to be the standard.

#### GROWTH OF THE CITY.

When the city was first settled the bulk of emigration was from Nantucket, embracing the families so numerous in the early population of Hudson, of Bunkers, Folgers, Coffins, Macys, Colemans, &c. Shortly after, a steady population flowed in from various points in the Eastern States, principally, however, from Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

The growth of the city in wealth and population was rapid. The following list, which was first published some years ago, contains the names of such of the inhabitants as were assessed £100 and upwards, in the year 1797, taken from the "tax book" for that year, which was certified to as follows:

"This Tax Book contains the value of each man's estate, both real and personal, within the city of Hudson, to the best of our knowledge according to the usual way of Assessment.

Hudson, 27th May, 1797."

JACOB DAVIS,  
JONATHAN BECRAFT, } Assessors.  
ISAAC NORTHPROP,

Arthur, McArthur	£140	Bunker, Barsilla	120
Allen, Benjamin	160	Bunker, Elihu	130
Allen, Howard	200	Becraft, Jonathan,	230
Alsop, John	400	Bolles, John R.	120
Ashley, William	260	Bolles, Jeremiah	160
Barnard, Joseph Est.	210	Burk, James	100
Barnard, Abisha	130	Coffin, Alexander	300
Bunt, Jacob	250	Coffin, Jared	135
Bunker, Solomon	130	Coffin, David	340
Bunker, Silas	150	Coffin, Uriah	120

Coventry, William	300	Jenkins, Robert & Co.	200
Comstock, Thomas	170	Johnston, Walter	120
Clark, George	105	Kellogg, Russell	270
Clark, Daniel	170	Lawrence, David	325
Cheanee, Abiel	190	Lescure, Hyacinth	115
Delamater, Dirck	550	Mooklar, James & M.	230
Delamater, Claudius I.	470	Morgan, James	105
Delamater, Claudius	150	Morton, Reuben	115
Dakin, Paul	160	Macy, Capt. Reuben,	450
Decker, George	225	Morrison, James	170
Dayton, Hezekiah	205	Moore, Reuben	130
Dayton, Isaac	100	Nixon, James	200
Elting, James	300	Nichols, Samuel G.	150
Everts, J. & Sons Est.	180	Northrop, Isaac	125
Ernst, John T.	120	Olcott, Josiah	225
Edmonds, Samuel	180	Paddock, Stephen	425
Folger, Reuben	225	Paddock, Daniel, Estate	130
Folger, Benjamin	100	Plass, John	435
Frothingham, Thomas	140	Power, Thomas	233
Frary, Giles	300	Parkman, Thomas	100
Greene, Nathaniel	820	Reed, Ezra	900
Gelston Cotton	415	Rand, Peter	190
Gilbert, Ezekiel	160	Race, Jonathan	135
Gardiner, William	120	Riley & Storrs,	100
Goldthwart, Thomas	180	Schermerhorn, John	100
Gunn, John	140	Spercer, Ambrose	180
Hardick, John F.	280	Sears, Nathan	100
Harder, Jacob Jr.,	250	Stoddard, Ashbel	100
Harder, John M.	120	Slade, William	100
Hoydorn, Adam	225	Thurston, John	120
Hosmer, Prosper	135	Ten Broeck, John Estate,	600
Hyatt, James	230	Ten Broeck, Jeremiah	550
Hubbell, Levi	100	Ten Broeck, Samuel	130
Hammond, Abner	110	Tobey, Seth	325
Haxtun, Benjamin	130	Tallman, John	120
Hogeboom, Peter	540	Van Hoesen, J. H. Est.	700
Hallenbeck, William	320	Van Hoesen, Abraham	190
Hallenbeck, Robert	320	Van Hoesen, Peter	290
Hallenbeck, Mathias	200	Van Hoesen, Jenny	105
Hallenbeck, John R.	180	Van Hoesen, Peter Estate	100
Hallenbeck, William G.	140	Van Rensselaer, Henry I.	600
Hathaway, John	500	Van Rensselaer, William	430
Hoxie, Christopher	160	Van Deusen, Tobias	300
Huyck, Casper Estate	300	Van Allen, Adam	265
Irish, Jonathan	100	Vander Bergh, Peter	165
Jenkins, Thomas	2660	Vander Bergh, James	165
Jenkins, T. & Sons	1150	Whittaker, Ephraim	210
Jenkins, Seth, Estate	850	White, Mrs.	140
Jenkins, Marshall	750	Whitlock, Thomas	145
Jenkins, Marshall & Son	310	Worth, Shubael	225
Jenkins, Charles	270	Worth, Thomas 2nd,	100
Jenkins, Lemuel, Estate,	200	Webb, Job	140
Jenkins, Deborah	195	Ward, Samuel	200



In the year 1800, the city numbered 4048, including eighty-eight slaves, ranking third in the State in commerce, and fourth in manufactures. Compared with the growth of many places within the last quarter of a century, this increase of population for a period of seventeen years may not seem great. It must be borne in mind that at that early day there was no foreign emigration to swell the population, and very few of the facilities for travel of the present day then existed.

When the question of a removal of the seat of legislation from New York came up in the "General Assembly," Hudson needed but one more vote to have been designated as the location for the new capital. Albany secured that "one vote" and became thenceforth the "capital city."

In 1803 the following vote was thrown at a charter election, "not warmly contested and not a full vote :"

FEDERAL.

DEMOCRATIC.

For Supervisor—Cotton Gelston, 232 | For Supervisor—Jared Coffin, 180

In 1806, at a charter election, a vote of 500 was cast; and in 1807 at a State election, a vote of 700. Until 1815, city officers were elected upon a general ticket, and were obliged to qualify upon the night following the day of election. In that year the law in this respect was changed, and the city divided into two wards, Third street being the line of division.

In 1820 the population numbered 5310, and from that period to the present the increase has been slow.

SHIP BUILDING, &C.

Ship Building commenced in the first year of its settlement, and for many years was extensively carried on. Many of the proprietors brought vessels with them, and in the year 1786 twenty-five vessels, carrying twenty-five hundred tons, were owned here; more than were at that time owned in the city of New York. These vessels were for the most part engaged in the West India trade, a small number being employed in the whale and seal fishery.

The first account we have of any ship yard is in 1784, when Titus Morgan applied for the privilege of building one on the purchase, "adjoining the North-ermost street, and in consideration of a lease being granted him for the term of four years, he agreed to make the road or street, from Market street to the river, passable for wagons, at his own expense. This was the opening of North Front street. In 1785, in view of his having been to "extra cost and expense in blowing open said road," his lease was extended from four to ten years. His yard was located in the vicinity of the foot of State street, and was subsequently occupied by Capt. Abiel Cheney, of whom it was said in the

paper of that day, that he had "given to Hudson a great reputation for the building of substantial vessels." Other yards were opened immediately after by Obed Sears, Marshal Jenkins, John T. Lacy, James Morgan and others. One was located where the oil works of Messrs. Barnard, Curtiss and Mitchell subsequently stood, another on the present site of the Hudson River railroad depot, and still another on the site of the new soap factory in the South bay. As late as 1827, two large barges were built in the South bay, very near the elm trees at the foot of the Universalist hill. As many as five large ships have been known to be upon the stocks in these various yards at one time. Launching days were frequent and were always kept as a holiday. Booths were erected outside of the yard for the sale of refreshments—which consisted principally of Mrs. Newberry's gingerbread,—schools were dismissed, the people from the country came in, and with the greater part of the population of the city, would gather at the yard and often wait patiently for hours for the moving of the vessel, which was the signal for the firing of guns and the cheers of the the crowd. In addition to the ship yards here, there were yards at Athens, at which several of the largest vessels owned by Thomas and Marshal Jenkins were built.

In 1796 Leverett Cruttenden commenced the building of small boats, which he continued until the year 1812, when through the influence of Elisha Williams he was induced to take charge of Congress Hall, Albany, which was built for him. In his new capacity he was afterwards known as "the prince of hotel keepers." His boat yard was a short distance South of the freighting establishment of Messrs. Haviland, Clark & Co.

The first ship launched here was in 1785, by Jenkins and Gelston; a ship of three hundred tons, called the *Hudson*, and commanded by Capt. Robert Folger.

The extensive commerce of the city gave great life to every branch of business connected with the building and fitting out of ships. Sail-making, blacksmithing, painting, rope-making and many other branches of industry, furnished employment to a large number of men.

In 1785 Thomas Jenkins, Josiah Olcott and others, built a rope-walk six hundred feet long, on the westerly side of Third and North of State street, the land having been granted by the proprietors for that purpose. The making of ropes for many years was successfully carried on by Mr. Olcott, and about the year 1830, the works passed into the hands of Messrs. Durfee, May & Co., who for several years manufactured ropes of great length and size, for the use of inclined planes upon railroads. Many of these ropes were of such weight as to

require several yoke of oxen to convey them to the river, to be shipped. The rope-walk was ever, with the boys, a favorite Saturday resort, the processes of spinning and twisting amusing them, while its great length afforded an ample field for *gymnastics*, chief of which was the *foot-race*. Many a staid citizen of to-day, proved himself there a "fast young man."

In 1786 a brewery was established by Benjamin Faulkins, who stated in the Gazette "that he had been regularly brought up to this philosophical branch of business in England, and he did not doubt his brewery might become of great utility to Hudson, by giving his ale the name of Hudson Ale," the prices of which were : stock ale five dollars, and mild ale three dollars per barrel. This brewery was upon the North side of the city, in the vicinity of the river.

In 1787 Seth Jenkins and Stephen Paddock built a hemp and ducking factory on Third street, upon the rear of the lot upon which stands the residence of the late Robert Rainey. Of the articles manufactured a portion were sent to New York, but the greater part were used by the sail-lofts here.

In 1789 Joseph Barnard built a wind grist mill upon Prospect Hill. The site undoubtedly furnished the motive power in abundance, but "carrying grist to mill," must have been far from a desirable task to his customers. The mill was octagonal in shape, two stories in height, built of heavy oak timber, sides shingled, and the wings, which were very strongly constructed, were nearly seventy feet from the ground. In all the approaches to the city it was a very prominent object and visible many miles distant. It remained there several years and finally gave place to a house erected as a saloon for refreshments, with the design of making the hill a place of public resort. The undertaking did not succeed, and the building is now occupied as a dwelling at the foot of the hill. The grist mill gave to the hill the name of "Wind-mill hill," by which it was known for many years.

In 1784 the first store was built and opened by Cotton Gelston, upon the site of the present residence of Garret Deyo ; his dwelling being the house now occupied by Mr. Hiram Morrison. The store was a small two story frame building, in the upper part of which he kept the Post Office, which was first established here about the year 1790, up to which time, for all their mail matter, the people of Hudson had been obliged to go to Claverack village. He continued in the office until the election of Thomas Jefferson to the Presidency, when he was removed and Alexander Coffin appointed in his place. Stores were opened shortly after Gelston's, by the Jenkins's, Frothingham, Dayton, Worth and others.



## STREETS.

The portion of the city at first most rapidly built up, was that nearest the river ; Water and Ferry streets being the first opened. Until the fires in late years, this part of the city (that now occupied by Franklin Square, with that lying South of it, now occupied by the buildings of Messrs. Hunt & Miller, and the Hudson River Rail Road Co.,) remained very compactly built, and longer than any other retained its primitive Quaker aspect.

Main, Union, Diamond, State, Front, Second and Third streets were immediately laid out and opened by the committee chosen by the proprietors at their first meeting ; but were at first little more than rough roads.

In 1792, after all the machinery of a city government was in operation, the work of grading and widening the streets, and the building of sewers was actively entered upon.

1793, September 1st. An ordinance was passed directing the commencement of the paving of the side-walks in Main street. Cotton Gelston, Ambrose Spencer and Jared Coffin were appointed a committee to superintend the work. Previous to this, there was no attempt at uniformity in the walks ; some were stone, others were plank, and a great portion were naked ground. It used to be said in wet weather, "that it cost two shillings to get a woman out of the mud."

Front street, between Main and Union, required much heavy blasting and digging near its junction with Union street was crossed by a deep hollow, over which was built a bridge. Through this hollow flowed a stream of water, which was entered by another, where the County road crossed the street, thence emptying into the South bay.

Main street was opened upon a ridge which sloped upon each side towards the bay, and as far as Third street presented nearly a level surface, covered with fields with a very few trees scattered through them. Upon the hills on the North bay were woods, while those upon the South were covered with beautiful and extensive orchards. Commencing nearly midway between Third and Fourth streets was a deep hollow over which at a very early date was a bridge, the remains of which were found, during the construction of a sewer, many years after. At this point, the street or road was so narrow as to afford only room for the passage of one conveyance, and so low, that the entrances to the first houses erected were many feet above it, requiring plank leading from the street up to the doors, in order to enter them. At the corner of Fourth street was the "great hollow" over which in 1784 was built the "bridge with stone buttments." This was a broad, deep hollow, requiring a bridge of con-

siderable length. The work of filling it was immediately undertaken, and so far accomplished that the bridge was in a few years removed ; the labor having been done mostly with hand carts. It remained for several years in a bad condition, loaded wagons from the country frequently requiring assistance in getting through it.

Above this, the street ascended somewhat unevenly, to the head of the city, with ravines upon either side, so near, that when graded in after years, the side-walks in some places required the support of plank and timbers. About midway between Fifth and Sixth streets it was crossed by another hollow of considerable extent. Fourth street was the upper end of the city, and to the City Hall was considered a very lengthy walk. For many years there was but a single dwelling above it, and in 1798 but one store, kept by Isaac Northrop, where the store of Mr. Solomon Wescott now stands. A few years after, Mr. Northrop purchased a farm including the land upon which the village of Athens now stands. Nearly all the stores were below Second street, while Front street was occupied for the most part by shops devoted to different mechanical branches. In a few years after, however, Front street was built up with stores and residences of a substantial character, and became a fair rival to Main street in appearance. Many of these are still standing, but are now the abodes of a far different class of citizens. Business gradually followed the growth of the city "up town," until at the present time the greater part of the principal stores are located there.

The road up the Academy hill was opened by the Columbia Turnpike Company in the year 1800. The Company was chartered in 1799, and was the first Turnpike Company in the State. Not long after, the road leading out of Main street in a Southerly direction, was opened by the Branch Turnpike Company. The South Bay road was opened in 1806, by the Highland Turnpike Company, the President of which (Mr. Howland,) resided in New York city. The operations of this company extended from New York to Albany. In 1823 and 24 the road connecting Third street and the Bay road was constructed. Previous to this, there was nothing but a cow path leading up the hill. In 1827 the road entering the city by Underhill's Pond was completed. The two last roads were built by the city, and met with opposition from parties whose interests suffered by their construction. It was thought that each road helped to divert trade from the lower part of the city. Allen street was opened about the year 1835, called after Lieut. William H. Allen. A portion of it, that between Second and Third streets, was opened at a much earlier date, and known as Federal street.

## BUSINESS.

Hudson became a port of entry in 1790, the first Government officers being Doct. Joseph Malcolm and Isaac Dayton. It was then rapidly growing in commercial importance and seemed destined to become the second city in the State. Some of the statements relative to the business of the city at that period seem almost incredible, but there is no reason to doubt their accuracy.

In 1802, on the first day of March, twenty-eight hundred loaded sleighs entered the city. We find this fact stated in the *Columbia Balance* of that date. It is said to have been frequently the case, that a continuous line of teams from the river extending into Main street, would be kept waiting, to discharge in order their loads at the different freighting establishments. The large brick store-houses near the river, built at a very early date, and some of which are still standing, confirm these statements. Fifteen vessels, heavily laden, were often known to depart at one time.

The articles exported were beef, pork, shad, herring, staves, heading, hoop-poles, leather and country produce generally. The packing of beef and pork was very extensively carried on, a large number of cattle and hogs coming from Berkshire County in Massachusetts. The slaughtering and packing establishments were located chiefly upon the North side of the city. A gentleman engaged in business in that day states that he has sold and shipped in a single day as many as one thousand barrels each of beef and pickled herring. Herring were much more abundant than at the present time. A vessel of one hundred tons was known to have been filled, in the vicinity of Rogers' Island, at one tide. In addition to the pickling of herring, shad were to some extent put up and great quantities of herring were smoked and boxed. Staves, heading, lumber and hoop-poles were largely exported to the West Indies, the vessels in return bringing valuable cargoes of rum, sugar and molasses. The only vessel from the "old world" ever known to have entered this port, was a Dutch ship from Amsterdam, consigned to William Wall, which loaded with lumber and returned to Holland. During its stay it was visited by a large number of the Dutch people in the vicinity, delighted to see a vessel from their "father land" and a crew who could speak their own tongue.

The English language was at this time scarcely ever used by the inhabitants of this region. There were a few who could speak it, but their religious services were in the Low Dutch tongue and in all their intercourse with each other they used no other. It is said that the "Yankees," as the proprietors were called, found great amusement in listening to the broken English of their Dutch neighbors. One old citizen states that they frequently drew him out



in conversation, simply to have a laugh at his expense, but he thinks he always had the advantage, for he "knew what they said about him but they couldn't tell what he said about them." It is said that for years, the proprietors found their inability to understand the Dutch language, a difficulty in all their business transactions. The Dutchmen would hear their propositions in English, and discuss them among themselves in Dutch ; hence the proprietors could never anticipate, the decision they were coming to. 1138967

We have the following amusing incident connected with a voyage of one of the vessels to St. Domingo, loaded with lumber, which had been rafted down the river very late in the fall, and shipped after the beginning of cold weather, considerably covered with ice, some of which was found, upon her arrival out, still clinging to it. It was the first ice the negroes had ever seen, and so terrified were they by its touch upon their naked backs that they plunged overboard whenever the sailors applied it. The crew enjoyed the sport so long and heartily, that some severity was necessary upon the part of the Captain before he could put an end to it and finish unloading.

During the winter months considerable trade was carried on with some of the Southern ports of the United States, principally with Charleston. It was a custom also for many of the mechanics of the city, to seek employment South during the close of navigation. Many branches of industry were directly dependent upon the commerce of the city, and gave employment to a much larger number of men during the warm seasons than in winter, and those who did not choose to remain idle sought employment South, returning in the Spring. The articles of commerce with the South were provisions and general country produce, in return the vessels bringing cargoes of cotton and rice, a portion of which found a market at New York, but of the former article the greater part was consumed here. Very few woollen goods were then used, most families spinning, dyeing and manufacturing cotton into yarn and clothing. We have heard much within the last year of "Charleston" and "cotton ;" our ancestors were quite as familiar with both, but in a decidedly more pleasant way.

The early whale fisheries were very successful, the vessels usually returning valuable cargoes of sperm oil. In 1797 the ship American Hero, Capt. Solomon Bunker, returned from the Pacific Ocean with a cargo of sperm oil, which at that time was the largest that had ever been brought into the United States. Capt. Alexander Jenkins was the last living member of the crew who made the voyage.

In Diamond street, between First and Second streets, were the oil and

candle works of Thomas Jenkins, and on the North East corner of Second and Statestreets were those of Cotton Gelston. These works were as extensive as any then existing, but the amount manufactured in one year was not as large as the oil works of later years manufactured in one month. This was ascertained upon examination, as a matter of curiosity.

When Tallyrand was travelling through the States, he visited Hudson and was shown through the oil works of Thomas Jenkins, examining thoroughly into all the mysteries and details of the manufacture of sperm candles.

Up to about the year 1800 the seal fishery was carried on to a considerable extent. Five or six vessels were constantly engaged in it, bringing from the Falkland and other islands in the South Atlantic, large numbers of fur and hair seal skins, and usually with them, a quantity of (sea) elephant's oil. Many of the skins were sold in New York, but the greater part were tanned here, the leather being very generally used for shoes. The last voyage for seals was made in the year 1799, in the ship *Ajax*, Capt. Pinkham, Zephaniah Coffin first mate. Some of the Captains engaged in the seal fishery were accustomed to tell wonderful stories of the islands which they visited; among other things, they boasted that they lived upon turtles so large, that one man could not turn them over, and some of the eggs which they boiled were little less in size than a man's head.

There were also several extensive tanneries located both in the North and South Bay. Robert Taylor, Nathan Sears, Marshal Jenkins, Giles Frary and David Bunker, each manufactured large quantities of leather, for a great portion of which they found a market in New York.

Upon the site of the stove foundry of Messrs. Hunt & Miller stood a large distillery. Two or three others, at different periods, were also in operation, and the business of distilling was for many years successfully and profitably carried on.

In addition to the brewery of Mr. Faulkins, before mentioned, there was another owned by Auchmoody, standing very nearly in the rear of the residence of Mr. L. G. Guernsey, and one other in the vicinity of the North Bay. Near Auchmoody's brewery was also a pottery of some extent, carried on by Joseph Shove. The amount manufactured at these different establishments compared with similar establishments now, would appear very small, none of the breweries turning out more than five barrels per day. There were, however, few more extensive than these any where to be found at that day.

In 1815 Hudson ceased to be a port of entry. During the revolutionary



struggle in France, and long protracted war in Europe, there was a great demand for neutral vessels. Large prices were paid for freight, and many of the vessels owned here were engaged in the carrying trade. British orders and French decrees swept many of them away from their owners, others were lost by shipwreck, and the war, embargo and non-intercourse gave a finishing stroke to the commerce of Hudson. The losses at sea produced great embarrassment and many failures, and with the failure of the Bank of Hudson in 1819, brought losses upon many of the neighboring farmers, and the decline of the prosperity of Hudson began. In 1830 there were but twelve sloops and scows, varying from forty to one hundred tons burthen, owned here, and engaged in trade with New York and Albany.

In 1829 the whale fishery was revived. Believing that Hudson offered equal advantages, possessed equal enterprise, and could fairly rival those eastern cities which the whale fisheries had built up, a company was organized and commenced operations at a time when the business of Hudson was in a most languishing condition. The return of their first ships animated their hopes, and the business was largely entered into; as many as fourteen vessels being at one time owned and fitted out here. The most valuable cargo returned by a single vessel was valued at eighty thousand dollars. As many as eight thousand barrels of sperm oil were returned in a single year by the different vessels. An act was passed in 1833 by the Legislature, incorporating the company, under the name of the "Hudson Whaling Company." Laban Paddock was President, but all its business was for many years transacted under the superintendence of Robert A. Barnard, Esq. Three vessels were owned by the company, the remainder by individuals, and for many years the fishery was carried on successfully, with a prospect of its becoming a source of permanent prosperity to the city. In a few years after, however, from causes beyond the control of those engaged in it, it declined, and in the year 1845, after bringing heavy losses upon many individuals, it was abandoned. The last ship, the Martha, was sold in that year. Then it was that Hudson was called "a finished city."

#### SLOOPS, &C.

Until the year 1807, all of the freighting and carrying of passengers was by sloops, of which there were several lines, owned by Hathaway, Coffin, Hogeboom, Edmonds, Folger, Hyatt, Van Hoesen and others, all previous to 1800. Mr. Edmonds was a clerk to Col. Van Allen when the settlement was made, and succeeded him in his business after his death. Capt. John Hathaway advertised that *his* sloops had better accommodations than any other upon



the river. In 1790, the Captain advertised that he would be pleased to have any body to whom he was in debt, "call upon him and get their pay if they wished it."

A trip to New York was made by sloops, under the most favorable circumstances of wind and tide, in twenty-four hours, but oftener occupied four or five days. An average trip occupied from two to three days. The usual rate of fare was three dollars, the company finding "board and lodging," or one dollar and fifty cents, passengers "finding themselves."

In the year 1806, two packets were built and run exclusively for passengers, not even a package of goods being allowed to be carried upon them. They were each of one hundred tons burthen, with "three lengths of berths in their after cabins, five in their great cabins, the forecastle being occupied by the hands." They sailed from Hudson and New York alternately, on the Sunday and Wednesday mornings of each week, and made the trip in time varying from ten to thirty hours, charging five dollars fare and finding everything. They were called the *Experiments*, and were commanded by Capt's. Laban Paddock and Elihu S. Bunker, by whom they were built and owned, and are said to have been the first vessels ever built in this country for the carrying of passengers only. In speaking of them a New York paper at that time, commented upon the utility of such a line, and hoped their success would "induce its adoption in every town of consequence upon the river. No competition need be feared from anything which sailed upon the river." Shortly after the establishment of this line, a steamboat commenced to run regularly and the "Experiments" were not found to be a profitable investment and were put to other uses.

#### STEAMBOATS.

On the 17th day of August, 1807, Fulton's steamboat, the *Clermont*, passed here, through the Western channel, making the passage from New York in thirty-three hours, "without the use of sails or oars, being propelled by a common water wheel which was moved by the assistance of machinery with steam." On her return trip next day she gratified the citizens of Hudson by making her passage through the Hudson channel. Every spot which afforded a view of the river, was crowded with people eager to get a view of "the great curiosity." Her average rate of travel was between five and six miles an hour. Not long after her first trip she came from New York in twenty-seven hours, landing here with one hundred and twenty passengers, which fact was considered worthy of a special notice. About the same time, the *Hudson Bee* made the following announcement, doubtless a very pleasant one, to its readers :

"HERE'S YOUR BEAUTIES OF LOBSTERS."

"These with sea bass, cod and black fish, jumping and alive in Hudson market, afford quite a dainty to an epicure one hundred and twenty miles from the ocean. They are brought here *on the Steamboat*, and sold in the brick market fresh and in good order, every time she arrives from New York."

We find in the *Bee* of June 1808, the following curious advertisement :

STEAMBOAT.

*For the Information of the Public.*

THE STEAMBOAT will leave NEW YORK for ALBANY every Saturday afternoon, exactly at 6 o'clock—and will pass  
West Point about 4 o'clock Sunday morning.

Newburgh, 7 do.  
Poughkeepsie, 11 do.  
Esopus, 2 in the afternoon.  
Redhook, 4 do.  
Catskill, 7 do.  
Hudson, 9 in the evening,

She will leave Albany for New York every Wednesday morning, exactly at 8 o'clock, and pass

Hudson about 3 in the afternoon.  
Esopus, 8 in the evening.  
Poughkeepsie, 12 at night.  
Newburgh, 4 Thursday morning.  
West Point, 7 do.

As the time at which the Boat may arrive at the different places above mentioned may vary an hour more or less according to the advantage or disadvantage of wind and tide, those who wish to come on board will see the necessity of being on the spot an hour before the time. Persons wishing to come on board from any other landing than here specified, can calculate the time the Boat will pass, and be ready on her arrival. Inn-keepers or boatmen, who bring passengers on board, or take them ashore, from any part of the river, will be allowed one shilling for each person.

*Prices of Passage—From New York.*

To West Point.....	\$2 50
Newburgh.....	3 00
Poughkeepsie.....	3 50
Esopus.....	4 00
Redhook.....	4 50
Hudson.....	5 00
Albany.....	7 00

*From Albany*

To Hudson.....	\$2 00
Redhook.....	3 00
Esopus.....	3 50
Poughkeepsie.....	4 00
Newburgh and West Point.....	4 50
New York.....	7 00

All other passengers are to pay at the rate of one dollar for every twenty miles, and a half a dollar for every meal they may eat.

Children from 1 to 5 years of age to pay one third price and sleep with the persons under whose care they are.

Young persons from 5 to 15 years of age, to pay half price, provided they sleep two in a berth, and whole price for each one who requests to occupy a whole berth.

Servants who pay two-thirds price are entitled to a berth; they pay half price if they do not have berth.

Every person paying full price is allowed 60 lbs. of baggage; if less than whole price, 40 lbs. They are to pay at the rate of three cents a pound for surplus baggage. Store-keepers who wish to carry light and valuable merchandise, can be accommodated on paying three cents a pound.

Passengers will breakfast before they come on board; dinner will be served up exactly at 2 o'clock; tea, with meats, which is also supper, at eight in the evening; and breakfast at 9 in the morning; no one has a claim on the steward for victuals at any other hour.

The first steamboat owned here was the *Legislator*, purchased in the year 1828, by the "Hudson Tow Boat Company," Previous to this a company, consisting of Messrs. Plumb, Hammond, Wiswall and Reed had built barges for the transportation of freight, which were towed to New York by steamboats running from Albany.

The Hudson Tow boat Company, succeeded the freighting firm of Judah Paddock and Co., established by Capt. Judah Paddock in 1818, doing business in the building still occupied for that purpose by Haviland, Clark & Co., It was at this period that the business interests of Hudson were in a depressed state. Power, Livingston & Co., were a firm also somewhat extensively engaged in the freighting business, about the year 1812. They carried on also an extensive mercantile business in the store for many years past known as the hardware store of Mr. Israel Platt. A gentleman states that from that store in 1813 he conveyed to Boston for them, a wagon load of flour, for the use of the army. The principal members of the firm were Capt. John Power and Moncrief Livingston. Capt. Power throughout his life was an active, enterprising citizen, alive to everything which would promote the prosperity of the city.

During the close of navigation passengers were conveyed by stages, running from New York to Albany; we find mention made of a line of stages as early as 1787. There was also a line connecting Hudson with Hartford, Conn., and a weekly line between Hudson and Albany, at the same time.

The fare from New York to Albany by stage was ten dollars, two trips being made in a week. The stopping place in Hudson was at the tavern of Russel Kellogg, which pointed itself out to the traveler by a huge sign, upon which was conspicuously painted a portrait of Gen. Washington in full uniform, on horseback. This was the second public house erected in Hudson



and stood upon the site of the Worth House. It was kept in later years by Samuel Bryan, "whose good coaches, excellent horses, skillful drivers, strict attention to the wants, comforts and convenience of his visitors, obtained for his house the emphatic title of the Traveller's Home." Mr. Bryan's was also the "stage house," and it was to accommodate the great amount of travel by stage, that the Hudson House (now the Worth House) was built, in the year 1837. It was not an uncommon thing at that day, for two hundred passengers to stop here daily for meals, during the winter months, and of the large number of visitors to the Springs at New Lebanon during the Summer, the greater part were sent there by stages from this place. With the construction of the various railroads, this source of prosperity to Hudson was also cut off. The first public house in Hudson was kept by Col. McKinstry, upon the site of the residence of Robert W. Evans. This house held out for its sign a portrait of the King of Prussia. Most of the public houses in the vicinity were at that time designated by a sign bearing the portrait of some crowned head of the old world. In the year 1793 a number of the "fast young men" of that day, to whom these signs were distasteful, made a visit to most of them and demolished them. On their return they paid a visit to the tavern of Joseph Horn, standing upon the site of the public house of Mr. S. S. Martin, which was then quite out of town, and converted the lower rooms of the house in a very short space of time into one. The King of Prussia next received their attention and shared the fate of the others. Their proceedings were brought to a close by honoring Mr. Kellogg's sign of Gen. Washington with three cheers; "a tiger" probably not yet having been heard of. They were subsequently prosecuted and made to pay heavy damages; Horn recovering about three hundred dollars.

#### BANKS, ETC.

The first bank was chartered in 1792. This was the Bank of Columbia, and was the third chartered in the State, one other being located at New York and another at Albany. The building known in later years as the "Hosmer house," and for many years the residence of Mr. Prosper Hosmer, standing near the foot of Warren street, was built exclusively for the use of this Bank. It was afterwards, about the year 1803, moved to the corner of Second and Main streets, and occupied the second story of the building now used by James Best & Co. as a meat market, going thence to the building occupied at present by the Hudson River Bank. Its first President was Thomas Jenkins. James Nixon first Cashier. It failed in 1829.

The second Bank was organized in 1808, called the Bank of Hudson. It

occupied, at first, the rooms on the corner of Second and Main streets, until the building now occupied as a residence by Hon. Henry Hogeboom, was erected for its use. Its first President was John C. Hogeboom, and Gorham A. Worth first Cashier. It failed in 1819.

The third Bank, the Hudson River, was organized in 1830, occupying the building of the present bank of same name, and continuing under the presidency of Oliver Wiswall, until its charter expired in the year 1855. In that year the present Hudson River Bank commenced operations under Robert A. Barnard as its first President.

The Farmers' Bank was organized in the year 1835, Elihu Gifford its first and present President.

The Hudson Savings Bank was instituted in the year 1850.

Niobe Nixon, a lady whose remains were brought here for interment during the past winter, was for many years a clerk in the Bank of Columbia. It was much more customary at that day than at the present, for women to fill positions of that nature, and in the early days of Hudson, places of business conducted by women were far more numerous than now. Particularly was this the case among the Friends or Quakers. Within the early recollection of the writer several such still existed, two or three of which, although small, had quite a local reputation.

In Union street, near the corner of Second, was the store of Elizabeth Stratton; she the embodiment of Quaker neatness, and her store and stock partaking of it. This was a favorite trading place with Friends. Her judgment and taste were thought to make up for a somewhat limited stock, and it was always remarked, "that somehow Elizabeth Stratton managed to suit everybody."

Near the lower end of Warren street was another store noted among Friends, that of Mary J. Coffin, who offered a greater variety than Elizabeth Stratton, but was always said "to charge more."

There was still another in the lower part of Warren street, quite as well known as the two former, kept by a worthy Friend, who is still a resident of the city.

Idleness was not tolerated by the early Quaker creed. Even the celebrated Hannah Barnard did not deem it beneath her to do something to help on the world; so she gave to it a "soothing balm for every wound:" "Cousin Hannah's salve." Hundreds to-day call her blessed, who remember and of old rejoiced in its relief-giving virtues. Its use was extensive, scarcely a family

being without it. We have been kindly favored, for publication, with the old lady's recipe for making it, in the hope that as one of the early "institutions" of Hudson it may be restored. It has long been numbered among the "lost arts :—" "Take 2 oz. Burgundy pitch, 1-2 oz. of beeswax, and melt them with one even table-spoonful of hog's lard. Spread it when used on a piece of old nankeen or cotton cloth ; better than leather. Compress it close on the part wounded."

## FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Of the first public movement in relation to the protection of the city against fire, we have the following facts :

As early as 1792, considerable anxiety was felt upon the subject, and the press urged upon the citizens great caution, picturing the terrible suffering which must result from a conflagration. As there was to be considerable building in that year, it suggested, as a matter of safety, that the buildings should not be placed too near together. In the month of November, 1793, a number of citizens, deeming it necessary for their safety to purchase an engine, circulated a subscription for that purpose. Twenty citizens, it is said, "immediately showed themselves forward enough to sign it," and the necessary amount was secured to purchase such an engine as might subsequently be agreed upon. They petitioned the Common Council that they might be privileged to form themselves into a company. Robert Jenkins, Erastus Pratt and Laban Paddock were appointed a committee to organize the Company and wait on Benjamin Cady to contract for an engine, to be completed in three months. It was to cost £100, hold one hundred and eighty gallons, be constructed with four pumps, to throw three hundred feet ! also, to "be fixed with a suction and do good execution."

The engine not being finished as soon as was expected, before its completion another company had been formed and an engine purchased by them.

On the 17th day of April, 1791, it was resolved by the Common Council that the following persons be appointed Firemen to superintend Fire Engine No. 1, to wit :

John Kemper,  
Seth Jones,  
Nathan Sears,  
Isaac Dayton,  
James Morgan,  
Elisha Foot,  
Thomas Manchester,  
Abner Hammond,  
Shubael Haskin,  
Joshua Tobey.

Jonathan Parington,  
Walter Johnston,  
Phineas Hoyt,  
Christopher Hoxie,  
Silas Rand,  
Cornelius Tobey,  
Robert Taylor,  
Alpheus Smith,  
Peter Truman,



That H. L. Hosmer and Levi Wheaton, be a committee to draught some Bye-laws to regulate the said Company.

1794, Nov. 10th. A Company was organized for the engine before referred to, calling themselves Company No. 2, by the following persons :

Samuel Mansfield,  
Peleg Thurston,  
Cotton Gelston,  
John H. Dayton,  
Laban Paddock,  
Arthur McArthur,  
Amiel Jenkins,  
Reuben Folger,  
Benjamin Allen,  
Zachariah Seymour,

Robert Jenkins,  
Samuel Lawrence,  
Erastus Pratt,  
James Mookler,  
William Jenkins,  
Benjamin Lane,  
John Walgrove,  
Samuel Plumb,  
Oliver Gelston.

They resolved to meet monthly, on the last Saturday of every month, and adopted as their uniform "a white jacket and trowsers," with a leather cap.—The uniform of No. 1 was at first a green flannel jacket with leather cap.

In 1794, the Common Council directed two houses to be built, "suitable for the wants of the companies and the protection of their engines." They were located, one in Third street and one near the lower market, and were of very small dimensions, but they managed, nevertheless to accommodate companies of considerable numbers. The "wants" of the Firemen of that early day were comparatively few. The engines were both very small, No. 2 being the largest and most powerful. No. 1 in after years was called the "pocket machine," and "sausage stuffer," and finally became a plaything for the juveniles in her vicinity.

In 1803, Company No. 3 was formed, and in 1808 a petition was presented to the Council for the organization of Company No. 4, but we have nothing further relative to either Company.

In July, 1785, "Chimney Viewers" were appointed, and many regulations were established for the protection of the city, and for the prevention of fires.

It was required by an ordinance, that the owner of every house with three fire-places should provide two leather buckets, and every house with more than three fire-places, three leather buckets, sufficient to contain at least two gallons of water. Brewers, bakers and tavern keepers were required to furnish them to hold three gallons. They were to be marked with the owner's initials and kept hanging up in some conspicuous place in the entry, near the front door, ready to be used for extinguishing fires. They were to be furnished by the owner of the dwelling, or, if by the tenant, the price was deducted from his rent, and for every month after notice he failed to provide, he was to forfeit six shillings for each bucket.

In 1794, the Overseers of the engines were required after a fire to cause all the buckets to be collected and carried to the Market House, that the citizens might know where to find them, and if injured to cause them to be repaired at the expense of the city; and if any were lost, they were replaced, upon proper proof of the fact, by the city. Any person detaining them from the owner above twenty-four hours after any fire, forfeited for every one so detained twenty shillings.

Fire Wardens were appointed, whose duty it was, immediately upon a cry of fire, to repair to the place, to direct the inhabitants in forming themselves into ranks, for handing the buckets to supply the engines with water. The citizens were enjoined to comply with the directions of such wardens, and it was expected that all other persons would refrain from giving orders or directions, and cheerfully obey such as were given by authorized persons. It was customary for the women to aid in the lines for passing the buckets, they usually passing up the empty line, while the men returned them filled.

The Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen, upon such occasions, were to carry a wand five feet, at least, in length, painted white, with a gilded flame at the top. The Fire Warden was to carry a speaking trumpet in his hand, painted white, and each Fireman was required to provide himself with a leather cap, with the crown painted white, or forfeit the sum of six shillings for every month he neglected to do so.

It was enjoined upon all the citizens, in case of a fire in the night, to place lighted candles in their windows, in order that the inhabitants might pass through the streets in safety, and to throw their buckets into the street, that there might not be delay in obtaining them.

1799, Nov. 9th. Paul Dakin was appointed to procure four small fire-hooks, chains, ropes, poles, and six ladders, from twelve to sixteen feet long, with hooks and brads, to be used at fires in pulling down buildings.

Robert Folger and others were appointed "bag-men," to preserve and secure property at fires, and were directed to procure bags and other implements necessary for that purpose.

Simple and curious as these regulations may seem at the present day, they were doubtless effective at a period when fires were much less frequent than now, and a fire department as efficient as that of which Hudson now boasts, was not known in the country.

The first fire in the city was the bookstore and printing office of Ashbel Stoddard, in 1787 or 88, of which we find the following account:

"The organization of the fire department being extremely deficient, there

being no engines, no buckets, no water, no firemen ; the fire was left to take its own course, and it accordingly raged not only unchecked, but unmolested. Fortunately the night was calm, and the flames ascended directly upwards, to the very skies, carrying with them innumerable fragments of papers and burning books, blazing as they flew ; filling the whole air with their fiery forms, and then descending in every direction, covering the town as with a shower of falling stars. Such a scene, so beautiful, was not easily to be forgotten."

The first fire of magnitude was in 1825, commencing in the alley south of Warren street, near First, extending through Warren to Diamond, destroying in its rapid progress a large number of buildings. First street was opened immediately after this fire. In later years few places have suffered more frequently and heavily from fires than Hudson ; that portion of the city nearest the river having undergone an almost entire change from that cause.

#### MILITARY.

There seems to have existed in the early days of Hudson a much greater military spirit than in later years, and we find a military company in existence almost as soon as the city was incorporated. The first organized was probably in the year 1786, a company of artillery, under the command of Capt. Daniel Gano, called Gano's Artillery, of a parade of which we find mention made in 1787, but have no account of its numbers or officers.

In 1788 mention is also made of another company, under the command of Capt. Thomas Frothingham, called Frothingham's Artillery, numbering about fifty members, but beyond an allusion to their appearance upon several public occasions, we have no further account of them. They aided in "duly celebrating" the 4th of July in that year, of which celebration we have the following report :

"Frothingham's Artillery ushered in the day with a salute of thirteen guns, on the eminence near the river, which with three cheers enlivened the countenances of the very numerous crowd present. At three o'clock in the afternoon an elegant dinner was provided at Russel Kellogg's tavern, at which was present a large number of the most respectable inhabitants of the city. Patriotic toasts were drank, which were announced by a discharge of cannon. The day closed with a most beautiful exhibition of fire-works, at which were present a great many ladies and gentlemen from the adjacent country, who seemed to retire extremely pleased with the evening's amusement."

This was the first general celebration of the day in Hudson. It was celebrated annually with much spirit afterwards, and as the bitterness of party strife increased, political celebrations were introduced, and we have frequent accounts of two celebrations, and occasionally the mechanics of the city, apparently disgusted with both parties, added a third. One party had its orations in the Presbyterian church, the other in the City Hall, and upon one or two occasions, the Episcopal church was used.



In 1786, Ezekiel Gilbert is spoken of as Brigade Major, and in 1788 Marshal Jenkins as Adjutant of the Regiment.

In the month of August, in the year 1788, the two companies of Gano and Frothingham, appeared in Claverack for inspection by Gen. Fish, and were highly complimented upon their "neat and soldierly appearance," each wearing the continental uniform.

On the fourth day of July, 1792, intelligence was received that the Hon. John Jay that day intended to stop at Hudson, on his way from the village of Kinderhook, where he had been upon a visit. Steps were immediately taken to give him a "fitting reception." A cavalcade of two hundred gentlemen was formed, who met and received him at the village of Claverack, and after calling upon William H. Ludlow, Esq., at his residence, "where they regaled themselves with a glass of wine," escorted him into the city. Upon his arrival he was received by a salute from Frothingham's Artillery, and after "proceeding through the various streets, was taken to Russell Kellogg's tavern, where an elegant entertainment had been provided," his Honor, Seth Jenkins, then Mayor, presiding. Mr. Jay drank to "*the prosperity of Hudson*," which called out the Mayor in a speech, concluding with a toast to "*the Man of the day*," to which Mr. Jay replied at some length. During the evening he was waited upon by a large number of citizens, and upon the morning following he sailed on board of the sloop Pompey for the residence of Gov. Lewis, leaving amid the cheers of the people and the firing of cannon.

In 1793, a third company of Artillery existed, under the command of Benjamin Haxton, called Haxton's Artillery, and shortly after, a company of Infantry, under the command of Capt. Nicholas Hathaway, calling themselves Hathaway's Infantry, wearing a black cocked hat, blue coat faced with red, and white or blue pantaloons, but we find no account of either company beside an allusion to them in the following proceedings of the Council, upon the receipt of the news of the death of Washington:

At a Common Council, holden in and for the City of Hudson, the 26th day of Dec., 1799, Present Cotton Gelston, Esq., Recorder, Elisha Pitkin, Paul Dakin, Samuel Edmonds, Thomas Power, *Aldermen*. Robert Folger, Robert Taylor, Silas Rand, Rufus Buckus, *Assistants*.

The Council having received certain accounts of the Death of our illustrious, beloved General WASHINGTON, and being desirous of testifying their sorrow in the most public manner, do Resolve that the citizens be immediately notified to repair to the City Hall, to form a procession to the Presbyterian Meeting House, where suitable prayers will be made by the Rev. Mr. Sampson, and an Eulogy will be spoken by Mr. Gilbert on the solemn occasion.

The procession to move in the following order :

Capt. N. Hathaway's Company of Infantry with Arms Reversed and Musick  
Muffled & Shrouded.  
Recorder and Orator.  
Common Council two and two.  
Reverend Clergy.  
Officers of the late Revolutionary Army.  
Other Officers Civil and Military.  
Citizens two and two.

During the moving of the procession, the bell was tolled, all places of business were closed and the citizens, wearing crape upon their left arms, assembled in great numbers to listen to Mr. Gilbert's touching and eloquent eulogy, commencing with the words, "He is not dead, but sleepeth." Upon this occasion, Haxton's Artillery fired minute guns.

After Hathaway's Infantry came the Wigton Artillery, commanded by Capt. William Wigton. Their uniform consisted of a blue coat trimmed with red, blue pantaloons with red stripe, and black cocked hat with red plume. They numbered about seventy, and for many years were a large and well drilled company. At this time party feeling was strong, and seems to have been as fully carried into every department of life as at the present day. The papers were filled with the most bitter personalities, each party had its club, its bank, and each its military company.

The Hudson Greens, a company of Infantry, was the Federal company. Their uniform consisted of a green coat and pantaloons, black hat and green feather. They numbered about fifty members, and were commanded at first by Capts. Samuel Canoll, Harry Croswell and Leverett Cruttenden.

The Wigton Artillery was the Republican Company.

Both the Wigton Artillery and Hudson Greens were ordered off in the war of 1812 and stationed at New York. In this connection, it may be an interesting fact to mention, that shortly after the opening of that war, Gen. Scott, with seven hundred men, encamped over night in this city, upon the open green then lying upon the easterly side of the present Court House. Under the lead of Capt. John Hathaway, the General and his men were supplied with wood, coffee and an abundance of the best of provisions. The lighted camps were visited by a large number of citizens, and upon the following morning Gen. Scott proceeded upon his way North, passing up Main street, himself the admiration of the hundreds crowding the sidewalks. Capt. Hathaway was a generous hearted, public spirited man, at the same time extremely close and particular in all matters of business. He was an ardent

supporter of the war of 1812, and gave largely in various ways in aid of the soldiers.

In 1802, a company called the Hudson Rangers is mentioned as heading the funeral procession of Gen. Robert Van Rensselaer. They were commanded by Nicholas Hathaway, Samuel Canoll and Joseph D. Monell, wearing as their uniform short blue coats, trimmed with red, white pantaloons and bear skin caps ; they cannot, however, properly be said to have belonged to Hudson, most of the members residing in the vicinity and in the town of Claverack.

After the Wigton Artillery and Greens, came the Hudson City Guards and Scotch Plaids, both of which companies did escort duty upon the visit of Lafayette to Hudson in 1824. Hudson was one of the first cities in the Union which sent a committee of invitation to meet Lafayette in New York, and tender him the hospitalities of the city. In the month of September, in 1824, he started upon the steamer James Kent, commanded by Capt. Samuel Wiswall, or the "Commodore" as he was styled, to visit the different places upon the North river. Upon his arrival at the residence of the Hon. Edward P. Livingston, the evening previous to his visit here, word was sent to the city, when a committee of citizens, consisting of Rufus Reed, Esq., Mayor, Doct. John Tallman, and Col. Strong, accompanied by the two military companies mentioned, the Hudson Brass Band, Gen. Jacob R. Van Rensselaer and suite, Brig. Gen. James Fleming and suite, proceeded upon the steamboat Richmond, Capt. William J. Wiswall, to meet Lafayette at Clermont and escort him to this city upon the day following. In the evening the grounds and dwelling of Mr. Livingston were beautifully illuminated, and a ball given, attended by several hundred people, among them many of the most distinguished citizens of the State. The military companies from this city were quartered over night upon the James Kent. After a short visit at Catskill, Lafayette reached Hudson about noon of the day following, and "met with a reception the most heartfelt and joyous ever bestowed upon man." He was conducted to an elegant carriage drawn by four black horses, attended by four grooms in livery, and accompanied by a lengthy procession of military and citizens of Hudson and its vicinity, under the direction of Col. Charles Darling as Marshal of the day, was carried through the principal streets, which were literally choked with people, to all of whom Lafayette tried in vain to bow. Arches of evergreens were erected at various points, bearing inscriptions of welcome, and that at the head of the street was surmounted by a colossal figure of the Goddess of Liberty, bearing the Stars and Stripes in her hand. At the Court House, which was filled "by



elegantly dressed women," he was welcomed by his Honor, the Mayor, to whom he replied in a brief speech. Sixty-eight veterans of the Revolution were then presented to him, for each of whom he had a kind word ; after them the military officers, lastly the "elegantly dressed women." Dinner had been provided for a great number of people at Mr. Allen's tavern, the long room of which had been beautifully decorated by the ladies. Over the chair designed for Lafayette was suspended a beautiful wreath of flowers, enclosing an appropriate poetical welcome, while around the room were the most tasteful and elaborate decorations which had been anywhere seen upon his journey. But these labors of love were all lost, the want of time preventing his remaining for dinner ; he did, however, so great was the pressure of citizens upon him in passing this point, alight, and after remaining for a short time and partaking of a glass of wine, bade the multitude farewell, proceeded directly to the river and embarked for Albany about the middle of the afternoon.

We take the particulars of this reception from the *Commercial Advertiser* of that date, whose reporter accompanied Lafayette upon his extended tour through the country.

In the year 1820, Hudson was visited by the Cadets from the Military Academy at West Point, who encamped on the Universalist Hill, remaining about four days. Their camps covered the entire hill, which at that time was of much greater extent than at present, much of it in later years having been taken up by the construction of the road leading to the Bay, and the erection of buildings. Hudson at that period, for the first time, being without a military company, their reception was by a cavalcade of citizens under the direction of a committee consisting of Cornelius Miller, Henry Dibblee and Robert A. Barnard, appointed by the Common Council. A ball was given by the citizens at Holley's tavern, during their stay, and the hospitalities of the city, public and private, were so marked and generous as to draw from them a warm expression of gratitude upon their departure.

The Hudson City Guards were organized about the year 1820, under Orville Holley as Capt., Daniel B. Tallmadge as 1st Lieut., Henry D. Parkman 2d Lieut., William Jenkins as Orderly Sergeant. Their uniform consisted of blue coats, silvered buttons, white pantaloons, with a high bucket shaped leather hat, surmounted by a white plume about half a yard in length. It was considered in its day a fine uniform, and the company always with full ranks and spirited, was the pride of the city.

The Scotch Plaids were organized about the same time, under Darius Culver as Capt., John Forbes 1st Lieut., Solomon Shattuck, Ensign.

These two companies were rivals, but with good feeling. The uniform worn by the Plaids was a frock coat and pantaloons of bright plaid, trimmed with black and bright buttons. The cap was one of black beaver, low, with a cluster of black plumes upon its front, falling upon either side. It was an attractive dress, and from its novelty, it is said, made the Plaids always the favorite company with *young Hudson*.

There was also at this time a military company at Athens, known as the Athens Lafayette Guards. There seems also to have been an association in this city known as the Hudson Military Association, but it numbered only a few members, and we can get no information of its particular object or character. It formed a part of the procession upon the occasion of the interment of Lieut. Allen's remains in 1827.

Lieut. Wm. H. Allen, who was distinguished as an officer and greatly esteemed as a citizen, was a native of Hudson. He was appointed midshipman in 1808, and a Lieutenant in 1811. In 1813 he took a conspicuous part in the engagement between the *Argus* and the *Pelican*, and was killed while in command of the *Alligator*, in an attempt to rescue some merchant vessels from a gang of pirates. His remains were first interred at Matanzas, and subsequently, after a correspondence between Oliver Wiswall, Esq., then Mayor of the city, and the Secretary of the Navy, were removed by the United States Government to this city. The news of his death was received here in the month of December, 1822, casting a general gloom over the city. A public meeting was held at the City Hall, at which Alexander Coffin, Ambrose L. Jordan and Doct. Samuel White presided, and a eulogy pronounced by the Hon. James Strong.

On the fifteenth of December, 1827, the schooner *Grampus* arrived at New York, having on board the remains of the lamented hero. On the reception of this intelligence, the Common Council deputed Mr. Reed, former Mayor, and Mr. Edmonds, the Recorder, to receive and bring them to his native city. On the Wednesday following, they were removed from the Navy Yard at Brooklyn, under the escort of the marine corps of that station, and accompanied by Commodore Chauncey and a numerous body of naval officers. The colors at the Yard, and at New York, were at half-mast, and the procession landed at New York amid the firing of a salute from the *Grampus*, which had been moored in the stream for that purpose. At New York the procession was joined by the Common Council of that city, and an immense concourse of citizens and officers, and moved across the city to the steamboat, which brought them to Hudson. Here a salute was fired by a detachment of

artillery, and by the marine corps, and the remains were delivered by Commodore Chauncey to the Hudson deputation. His remains were accompanied to Hudson by the following officers of the Navy: Lieuts. Francis H. Gregory, George N. Hollins, William D. Newman, John R. Coxe, John Swartwout and Alexander M. Mull; sailing-master Bloodgood, and midshipmen Lynch, Nichols, Schermerhorn, Lawrence and Pinckney, and arrived early on Thursday morning. They were welcomed by a national salute, and were escorted to the dwelling of Capt. Alexander Coffin, and afterwards followed to the grave yard by a detachment of military and a numerous escort of citizens, which moved in the following order:

Hudson City Guards.  
Columbia Plaids.  
Athens Lafayette Guards.  
The Military under command of Col. William A Dean,  
with standards furled and drums muffled.  
The Reverend Clergy.  
The Corpse,  
Borne by Lieuts. Gregory, Hollins, Newman, Coxe, Swartwout and Mull, the  
Midshipman Lynch, and Nichols.  
Mourners, including Messrs. Bloodgood, Schermerhorn, Lawrence,  
Pinckney of the United States Navy.  
Hudson Military Association.  
Brigadier General Whiting and his suite.  
The Mayor and Recorder.  
Aldermen.  
Assistant Aldermen.  
Clerk and Marshall of the City.  
Clerk and Sheriff of the County.  
Committee of Arrangements.

While the procession moved, the bells of the city were tolled, and minute guns were fired from Parade hill. On its arrival at the grave-yard, the body was conveyed in front of the line of the military resting on arms reversed, and was committed to the earth, near the grave of Lieut. Allen's mother. The funeral service was read by the Rev. Mr. Stebbins, and a volley fired over the grave by the military. The procession then returned to the United States Hotel, where it was dismissed.

At three o'clock, P. M., the naval officers sat down to a public dinner, given them by the citizens, at which about one hundred citizens were present.

The evening was spent at the hospitable mansion of Col. Livingston.

On Friday the officers paid their respects to the Mayor, and departed amid the roar of cannon, with the heartfelt gratitude of the whole city for their generous attention on this occasion. The following correspondence took place between the officers of the Navy and the committee:



HUDSON, *December 21, 1827.*

The officers of the Navy assembled on the present melancholy occasion, reciprocating the sentiments expressed by the citizens of Hudson, return their thanks for the unparalleled tribute paid to the memory of their late gallant associate. They at the same time return their acknowledgments for the liberal hospitality which has characterized the whole proceeding ; and in departing, beg leave to say, that whether applied to the individual or professional standing of their departed member, the conduct of the citizens is alike honorable to their feelings and principles as men and patriots. Laboring under emotions too powerful to be conveyed in adequate language, they tender the committee a grateful and affectionate farewell.

HUDSON, *December 21, 1827.*

The committee of the city of Hudson, in acknowledging the favor of the officers of the Navy, assembled on this occasion of paying the last honors to the memory of the lamented ALLEN, gladly avail themselves of this opportunity to assure those gentlemen of the high sense entertained by this whole community of the obligation conferred upon them, by the attendance of individuals deservedly distinguished for their public and private worth ; as the committee cannot entertain a doubt that the lives of those officers of the Navy will be as honorable, so they cannot but hope that their deaths will be as glorious, and their memories as much respected as those of the gallant and unfortunate William Howard Allen.

By order of the committee.

DAVID WEST, *Chairman.*

WILLIAM A. DEAN, *Secretary.*

The fine marble monument which marks his resting place, was erected to his memory by the citizens of his native place in 1833.

With the disorganization of the two companies of Guards and Plaids, the military spirit seems entirely to have died out. The Hudson Light Guards, afterwards the Worth Guards, under the command of Capt. E. P. Cowles, existed for a few years, and attempts have since been made to organize other companies but without success. Recently two companies, composed exclusively of Irish citizens, have been formed which maintain thus far a creditable existence.

We have spoken of Lieut. Allen, of the U. S. Navy. Hudson may be proud of having given birth likewise to a distinguished officer of the Army, Gen. Wm. J. Worth, whose remains also should have found a resting place here. Gen. Worth was born in 1794, in the house, which is still standing, upon the southerly side of Union street, three doors from Second. He was for some time a clerk in this city, and entered the army in 1813. He was rapidly promoted, and after rendering valuable and distinguished service in the Mexican War, died in Texas in the year 1849. His remains were interred in New York city. In the summer of 1844 Gen. Worth visited this city and received from its citizens an elegant and valuable sword as a testimonial of

the esteem in which they held him, both as a soldier and a man. That, with several others presented by the Government of the United States and the citizens of other places, can at any time be seen in the State Library at Albany.

The most imposing military display ever witnessed in Hudson was the review of the companies stationed here during the "Anti-Rent War" of 1844. In the autumn of that year the spirit of rebellion which for months previous had existed among the tenants of the Manor lands in Albany and Rensselaer counties, began to manifest itself in the Southern or Manor towns of Columbia, and frequent meetings were held for the purpose of adopting measures to resist the payment of their rents. The "patriots" of Albany and Rensselaer pointed their "fellow-sufferers" of Columbia to the successes in their own counties, urged upon them the justice and feasibility of resisting the demands of the legal proprietors of the soil, and finally induced them to adopt their lawless views and follow their directions.

In the month of November a general meeting of the tenants was held in the town of Taghkanic, the result of which was the formation of an association styling itself the "Taghkanic Mutual Association," with the following officers :

JOHN I. JOHNSON, President.

James M. Strever, George I. Rossman, Peter Poucher, Samuel A. Tanner, George I. Finkle, Vice Presidents.

Philip B. Miller, Treasurer.

Anthony Poucher, Recording Secretary.

Peter Poucher, Corresponding Secretary.

John Bain, James M. Strever, Executive Committee.

Their articles of association were prefaced by the following high-sounding preamble :

"Whereas, it has pleased the All-wise Providence to awaken the attention of this community to a lively sense of the great injustice of the present system of land ownership, by the laws of this State, permitting individuals to hold large tracts of land for which they have never rendered any equivalent to the State or Nation ; and whereas the happiness and prosperity of this and future generations depend in a great measure upon our exertions to blot from our statute-book the last relics of Feudalism ; We, therefore, in imitation of our Patriotic fathers who signed the Declaration of Independence, and the better to accomplish our freedom, do adopt the following Constitution, and solemnly pledge our honor to abide by the articles therein contained."

After the adoption of the constitution and by-laws for the regulation and government of the association, they pledged themselves to use all lawful and honorable means to rid themselves of their unjust burthens, and that they would neither make nor accept any proposition from any person claiming land under the Livingston patents, for the payment of rent or the purchase of the soil, without the consent of a majority of the association.

In addition to this association, there was an extensive organization of the tenants into tribes of "Indians," under the direction of Chiefs "Big Thunder," (Smith A. Boughton,) and "Little Thunder," (Mortimer C. Belding,) of Rensselaer county, whose special object was to forcibly resist the officers of the county in the discharge of their duties.

The writer witnessed the first gathering of the "Indians" in the town of Taghkanic, in the month of November in that year. It is not possible to give any description which would convey an accurate idea of their ridiculous, yet hideous appearance. Every species of disguise had been adopted which would most successfully prevent recognition. All wore uniforms of calico, to which were added the skins and tails of various beasts, horns and feathers, tin ornaments and other decorations, according to the fancy of the "native." The faces of some were covered with masks of calico, others blackened, others painted red; and their arms were as varied as their disguises. Guns, pistols, hatchets, spears, clubs, being carried without any attempt at uniformity.

After a short drill by their Chief, they were marched around for the benefit of the spectators, to the inspiring strains of "Dan Tucker," played upon a single fife, accompanied by a small drum, and were then addressed by Big Thunder, who dwelt upon their wrongs, the justice of their cause, counselling them to stand firm by their motto "down with the rent," and resist any attempt to collect it by the strong arm of the law; to all of which the tribes responded by a whoop of the genuine sort and a terrible brandishing of weapons. After this speech a song was sung, the chorus of which ran as follows:

"Git out of the way, big Bill Snyder,—  
We'll tar your coat and feather your hide, Sir!"

Before the adjournment of this interesting meeting, the writer who had been sent there, if possible to discover who participated in its proceedings, had taken the advice given to "big Bill Snyder," and was a respectable distance "out of the way."

On the 12th day of December, 1844, the first forcible resistance to the Sheriff, Henry C. Miller, was offered in the town of Copake, where he attempted to serve processes and make sale of property belonging to disaffected parties. It was deemed advisable that he should undertake the duty without an accompanying force, and he proceeded to the spot with a single individual. On their approach pickets were discovered stationed along the road, and upon arriving at Copake they were met by a force of three hundred "Indians" and a concourse of about fifteen hundred people not in disguise. He was taken into a room of a public house in the vicinity, by Big Thunder and six other



Chiefs, who stated that he would not be permitted to proceed in the discharge of his duties. Swords were drawn, pistols placed at his breast, his papers demanded and given to them, which were subsequently burned in the presence of the crowd.

The return of the Sheriff and the report of his reception produced the most intense excitement in the city. It was evident that force would have to be met by force, and a general determination was manifested upon the part of the citizens to uphold and vindicate the law at any sacrifice.

On the 18th day of December Big Thunder was advertised to address a meeting of the tenants of the lands under the Van Rensselaer title, at Smokey Hollow, in the town of Claverack. The fame of the "orator of the day," and the curiosity to see the Indians drew together an immense concourse of people. The Indians appeared in force, and during their *antics* a young man among the spectators by the name of W. H. Rifenburgh was killed by the firing of a pistol, whether intentionally or not could not be clearly established. News of the occurrence being received in the city, upon consultation, the Sheriff determined to proceed to the spot and attempt an arrest of Big Thunder. Joseph D. Monell volunteered and was the only individual who accompanied him. They reached Smokey Hollow towards evening, after the meeting had broken up and most of the Indians had laid aside their disguises. Big Thunder was found sitting very unconcernedly, in conversation with several individuals, in a back room of the tavern, and was without ceremony made a prisoner by the Sheriff. He offered no resistance until reaching the front door, where, surrounded by a number of his followers, he drew his pistol and attempted an escape, and would have succeeded but for the intrepidity of John S. Anable and Deputy Sheriff Thomas Sedgewick, who were present at the time. During a severe struggle in which the clothing of the parties suffered severely, he was overpowered and secured. Little Thunder was also arrested and with his fellow chief brought in and confined in Jail. Upon their arrival in town they were followed to prison by an immense crowd, who gave vent to their feelings in the most vociferous cheers. On the day following, an examination was commenced before Judges Wilcoxson and Peck, at the Court House, conducted by Theodore Miller, Esq., then District Attorney, upon the part of the People, Henry Z. Hayner, of Troy, and James Storm, Esqrs., appearing as counsel for the prisoners. Upon the arrest of Big and Little Thunder, the excitement was no less intense in the country than in the city. Meetings private and public were held and threats so freely thrown out, that if men and money could accomplish the rescue of the prisoners they should not be wanted, that it was deemed advisable to take immediate steps for the pro-

tection of the Jail and safety of the prisoners. Arms and ammunition were procured from Albany, and the fullest preparation made to meet any attempt at rescue. On Thursday following the arrest, a public meeting was held at the Court House, which was addressed by E. P. Cowles, Henry Hogeboom and Josiah Sutherland, Esqrs., urging upon the citizens the importance of taking a bold stand in favor of law and order. A committee, consisting of Col. Charles Darling, E. P. Cowles, Killian Miller, Rufus Reed and Warren Rockwell, was appointed to report some plan of organization for the protection of the city at night, fears being entertained that an attempt to fire it might be made. A patrol for each night of twenty citizens in each ward was established under the control of the committee mentioned, and the Hudson Light Guard, Capt. Cowles, were ordered to rendezvous with loaded muskets and twenty rounds of ball cartridge, at the Court House instantler, in case of an alarm, of which notice would be given by the ringing of the bell of the Presbyterian church. On the Saturday following Attorney General Barker visited the city and advised the immediate enrolment of one hundred men, to be armed and equipped, and in the pay of the State, subject to the Sheriff's order, to aid and assist him in the exercise of his official duties. The suggestion was immediately acted upon, and one hundred men were enrolled, under the command of Capt. Henry Whiting, late of the U. S. Army, with four pieces of artillery.

From information received from the country, and indications within the city, the opinion was entertained by the authorities that an attempt at rescue would be made on that day or the following night. The examination of the prisoners was suspended, men were stationed at the different church bells to give the alarm, the Home Guard and Light Guard were under arms, and the city, in consequence of the rumors, in a state of general commotion. Aid was also sent for from the village of Catskill. Col. Darling was sent there and after calling the citizens together at the Court House by the ringing of the bells, stated to them the condition and fears of the people of Hudson. A large number volunteered and returned with Col. D., who was joined by another force at Athens. They reached Hudson late on Saturday night, returning on Monday morning.

A second meeting of citizens was held on the evening of the 21st of December, which was addressed by John Gaul Junior, Esq. and others, and a committee consisting of Rufus Reed, John Gaul, Jr. and Matthew Mitchell appointed to report some plan for the organization of the citizens. It was resolved to raise a volunteer company of five hundred men, to be called the "Law and Order Association," to hold themselves subject at all times to the

call of the Sheriff of the County. A Committee of Safety was also appointed, authorized to call upon the authorities of the State for a supply of not less than five hundred stand of arms for their use. The Association was immediately filled up and placed under the command of the following officers :

CHARLES DARLING, Colonel.

JOHN S. ANABLE, CHARLES A. DARLING, Aids.

Leonard Freeland, Lieut. Col.

Wm. W. Hannah, Adjt.

Isaac Griffen, Major.

Joseph Goodwin, Quarter Master.

Robert G. Frary, Surgeon.

The force was divided into four companies, under the following officers :

First Ward, Company No. 1, Capt. Thomas P. Newberry.

" " 1st Lieut., John Smith.

" " 2d Lieut., Peter S. Burger.

" Company No. 2, Capt. Ichabod Rogers.

" " 1st Lieut., James Elmendorf.

" " 2d Lieut., Justin Winslow.

Second Ward, Company No. 1, Capt. Hiram Gage.

" " 1st Lieut., Henry Waterman.

" " 2d Lieut., Wm. H. Spencer.

" Company No. 2, Capt. Warren Rockwell.

" " 1st Lieut., Charles Mitchell.

" " 2d Lieut., John Best.

The arms desired were furnished by Gov. Bouck, and at the request of the Common Council, the Albany Burgesses Corps came down to remain until the excitement should subside. The following proclamation was then issued by the Mayor of the city :

CITIZENS OF HUDSON : Deeply must all good citizens deplore the exigency which now demands, for the first time in our history, the gathering of a standing armed force, in this city ; but, no alternative is left. The Supremacy of the laws must be maintained, or the tyranny of Anarchy reigns triumphant !

We have witnessed in our County a Rebellion ; an armed resistance to Law ; the personal safety of the Sheriff violated, and *life* sacrificed. The Sheriff of the County, supported by the determined energy of a handful of individuals, chief among whom ranks our most respected fellow-citizen, Joseph D. Monell, Esq., has arrested persons charged with being the ringleaders of the rebellion. Information which can be most implicitly relied on has been received, that their aiders and abettors in this and other counties have threatened to rescue these prisoners at any and all hazards ; and, if necessary to accomplish that purpose, *to fire the city* ! An express sent by the Sheriff of this County, to the Attorney General of this State, at Albany, was intercepted, and for a time detained in the county of Rensselaer. A contemplated rescue of these prisoners was discovered on Saturday last, and prevented only by a prompt and general rally of the friends of Law and Order under arms at the Court House. The design of effecting a rescue, we are informed, is not yet abandoned.

Self-respect—our own reputation as friends of just laws and good order—every consideration of patriotism and duty demand that all such designs should be frustrated, and impartial justice administered.



Such considerations should be our ruling motive ; but, our pecuniary interest is also at stake. Remember, Citizens, *that no Policy of Insurance, will cover Losses by Fire, when caused by "Invasion, or Insurrection or Civil Commotion."* So far, Citizens, we have done our duty : thus setting a noble example, which it is hoped, our sister Cities and Counties will emulate. Energy, resolution and vigilance are all that are required. At the invitation of the Recorder of this City, the State Attorney General has visited us, who highly commends the course taken by our Judicial and Executive officers, and strongly urges a perseverance, pledging aid from the State if needed. The Executive of the State has furnished us with 500 stand of arms and a large supply of ball cartridge. An efficient force of One Hundred armed men enlisted for thirty days with four pieces of artillery, and all under the command of Capt. Henry Whiting, late of the United States Army, is stationed at the Court House. The Hudson Light Guard, under command of Capt. E. P. Cowles, are fully supplied with ammunition and ready for duty at a moment's warning. The *Albany Burgesses Corps*, a gallant band of citizen soldiery, by the invitation of our Common Council, arrived here yesterday, under the command of Maj. Franklin Townsend, and reported themselves to me for duty. They have in charge one piece of artillery, and 300 stand of arms, forwarded by the Commander-in-Chief for the defence of our City.

By the hands of the Governor's Private Secretary, I have received official information from the Commander-in-Chief, through the Adjutant General of the State, that a large body of troops, consisting of mounted artillery, cavalry and infantry will hold themselves in readiness for actual service, and will be ordered to this place, if required.

It is desirable for the citizens of Hudson to organize an armed force of 500 minute men. Such an organization has already been commenced, under charge of a proper committee. Our oldest and most respectable citizens have already joined it, and when completed, this corps, together with the Hudson Light Guard, will be under the command of Col. Charles Darling ; and in case of alarm, will rendezvous at Davis's City Hall. Arrangements have been made by which the approach of a hostile force will be known and reported long before its arrival, and notice given to the citizens by ringing the bell of the Presbyterian Church. An efficient city patrol is also constantly kept up. And now, Citizens, let us do our duty ; prompt action now may, and no doubt will, eventually save much treasure and many lives.

*Given under my hand and seal of the City of Hudson, the 26th day of December, 1844.*

CYRUS CURTISS, Mayor.

An address signed by a large number of the leading citizens of Hudson was sent to the tenants, warning them of the penalties they were bringing upon themselves, and appealing to them to cease their attempts to obstruct the administration of justice ; but without any good effect. Bands of disguised men continued to fire upon and arrest officers, taking from them their papers, and it was found necessary for the Governor to send here an additional military force, consisting of the Emmet Guards, the Van Rensselaer Guards, Albany Republican Artillery, Washington Riflemen, and a German Company of Cavalry from New York, under the command of Capt. Krack. These were quartered at the various public houses and upon the boats then wintering at the

wharves. Hudson presented the appearance of a military encampment. Cannon were planted in front of the Court House, the streets resounded with martial music and the tramp of soldiery. Sentinels walked "their lonely round" night and day, and at all times their bright uniforms were seen in every part of the city.

Aided by detachments of military, arrests were made in rapid succession, and in a very short time comparative quiet was restored and the military force gradually withdrawn, having remained here about one month. They left for their homes with ranks not in the least thinned by the enemy they came to meet, of whose fire, we believe, the nearest approach was upon the sentry of the Emmet Guards stationed at the Hudson (Worth) House, at whom a ball was fired upon a very dark night, about the midnight hour, by a "solitary man on horseback." The sentry escaped, a column upon the stoop receiving the charge intended to put an end to his "military career," which still shows the spot where it entered. Not the slightest clue to the individual who fired it was ever obtained. With the exception of a few midnight excursions for the purpose of making arrests, their stay was marked by very little adventure, and was a lengthened holiday to the military; and after the disappearance of the panic which at first pervaded the city, afforded a pleasant excitement to the citizens. The officers of the various companies were entertained at the residences of the Mayor, Sheriff and other citizens. A ball was given by the Light Guard at the Hudson House, and every attention which could relieve their visit of its monotony was bestowed upon them by the grateful citizens of Hudson.

In the month of January a review of the whole force by the Mayor took place, including the Home Guard, Light Guard and Volunteers, after which a parade, the whole forming a lengthy procession, the like of which Hudson will not soon again look upon.

Big and Little Thunder were both indicted and the former brought to trial in the month of March before Judge Amasa J. Parker. Great interest was manifested throughout the trial, and the court room was densely thronged. John Van Buren, Esq., the State Attorney General, and Theodore Miller, Esq., conducted the prosecution, Ambrose L. Jordan and James Storm, Esqrs, appearing for the prisoners. The result of the trial, after occupying nearly two weeks, was the disagreement of the Jury. In the month of September he was again tried before Judge Edmonds, the same interest as before being manifested in the trial, which resulted in his conviction and confinement in the Clinton County State Prison, from which he was shortly after pardoned by Gov. Young. During this trial a personal encounter took place between Ambrose

L. Jordan and John Van Buren, Esq., growing out of a heated debate. Little Thunder was not tried, but after a year's confinement in the county jail, was discharged. Of the other parties arrested and indicted, some were subsequently discharged, others followed Big Thunder into retirement, and peace was finally restored throughout all the "infected district," although for some time it was not deemed safe for officers to venture into it unarmed or without an armed escort.

Looking back to all this military preparation, it is often remarked that it was wholly unnecessary. It may have been so. It is difficult to tell to what length of outrage the misguided tenants, calling themselves Indians, under the lead of wicked men, might not have gone, had not this force been arrayed against them.

#### THE PRESS, INCIDENTS, &C.

Ashbel Stoddard was the pioneer printer of Hudson. Two years after it was founded, in company with Charles R. Webster, who had been an apprentice with him at Hartford, in the office of the CONNECTICUT COURANT, he commenced the publication of a weekly paper called the HUDSON GAZETTE, on the corner of Warren and Third streets. The first number was issued on the seventh day of April, 1785. In it he points out to the public the many advantages which would result to "our already flourishing place," from the establishment of an impartial newspaper. "To the curious," he says, "it will afford a rich fund of entertainment, it will bring chaps to the merchant, customers to the mechanic, show the husbandman where he can best dispose of his produce, to the poor man who has but a penny, where he can best lay it out to advantage, and will point out to the world in general the method of obtaining riches, by commerce and agriculture." "Being deprived of so many privileges, must be seriously felt by Hudson," therefore he had commenced the publication of the HUDSON GAZETTE, to be issued weekly at the rate of twelve shillings per year; money to be refunded to subscribers who were not satisfied with the paper. It was small, being about fifteen inches square in size, printed upon coarse paper of a yellowish tint, but in very fair type.

It seems at first to have received a poor support, very few advertisements, save Mr. Stoddard's own, being found in its business columns. Its editorials were few; selections and correspondence principally from abroad filled its columns, now and then an item of local interest finding its way in.

The number of communications upon the subjects of "slavery," and "human freedom," is particularly striking. Poetical contributions of the same nature



were frequent. An early number contained a poem of two hundred lines in length on the "*Miseries of Slavery and the happiness of Freedom.*"

Advertisements of the sale of negroes, and rewards offered for runaway negroes were numerous. Cotton Gelston advertised a negro "as having walked away, being too lazy to run."

We give the substance of a few other curious advertisements and communications in its columns :

In the winter of 1785, Mr. Robardet, from Connecticut, advertised that he would open a class, for "instruction in the polite accomplishment of dancing after the most approved method." Scholars would be taken from *seven to fifty years of age*. A Connecticut dancing master, advertising for scholars fifty years old, in a Quaker city!

Ambrose Liverpool advertised that he would open a Seminary, "where he would teach all the English branches, also Latin and Greek classics ; also at convenient times the principles of several musical instruments, and that he had also *several dozen strong English beer which he wished to dispose of.*"

In 1786, Mrs. Hussey notified the ladies of Hudson that she would be happy to wait upon their commands in millinery and mantua making, after the most approved fashions regularly received from New York City, at her house on the hill near the wharf.

Monsieur Hyacinth Lescure stated that he kept a "choice lot of Essences near the Market House," also, that he would furnish "cushions to ladies, and queius to gentlemen of excellent human hair," for which he would take his pay "in wheat and indian corn." Monsieur Lescure had been a drummer under Burgoyne and was barber to the corporation, there being no other at this time in the city. He is described as having a frizzled head, broad low forehead, little black eyes, high cheek bones, wide mouth and triangular visage, accustomed to walk backward and forward before his little shop door, humming a tune and snapping his fingers. His dress was in keeping with his person and profession ; a long broad striped calico gown, a short white apron, tight nankeen small clothes, ruffled shirt, completed with silk stockings and yellow slippers.

On the 15th day of August, 1786, Mr. Pool advertised the exhibition of a circus "on the green," stating that he was the first American who had ever attempted wonderful feats of equestrianship, and among other wonderful things which he would exhibit, were two horses which at word of command would "lay down and groan as if in pain." The price of admission was three shillings, and ladies and gentlemen were "*beseached not to bring any dogs with them to the performance.*"

About the same time, two camels were advertised for exhibition, described as "stupendous animals, being the greatest curiosity on the continent, having necks three feet eight inches long, a high bunch on the back like a pedestal, four joints in their legs, will lie down and get up at word of command and can travel fourteen days without water." The curious were invited to come and see them without fail. Admission one shilling.

From what would be called its "chip basket" at the present day, we take the following :

"A good wife should be like three things, which three things she should not be like. First, like a snail, keep *within her own house*, but not like a snail, *carry all she has upon her back*. Second, like an echo, *answer when spoken to*, but not like an echo, *have the last word*. Third, like a town clock, *keep time and regularity*, but not like a town clock, *be heard all over town*."

To which Miss Barbara Crabtree replied.

"That a good husband should be like three things, which he should not be like. First, like a snail, he *should have a house over his head*, but not like a snail be a *creeping thing*, but *brisk and active*. Second, like an echo, he should always *speak in union and accord with his wife*, but not like an echo *tell tales*. Third, like a clock he should be *regular in his habits*, but not like a clock, *be often wound up*."

It published the following as a "wonderful tale :"

"Robert White was married to Betsey Harris on Tuesday, May 1st, (1787) who was brought sick on Wednesday, delivered of three children on Thursday, who all died on Friday, and were buried on Saturday."

In 1792 the Gazette was somewhat enlarged, and its columns gave evidence of prosperity, but throughout its publication it was deficient in matters of local interest. Mr. Webster being also engaged in the publication of the Albany Gazette, shortly after the commencement of the Hudson Gazette, retired from the concern and Mr. Stoddard remained its sole publisher until 1803 or 4, when it was discontinued, other political papers having taken the field. Mr. Stoddard then confined himself exclusively to his printing and bookselling business. In 1785 he commenced the publication of the "Columbian Almanac," the only one ever published in this city, and still issued at the old stand, being better known now as Wynkoop's Almanac. In olden times it was deemed the only one reliable, and there are many at the present day, who ask for and will have no other than "Stoddard's old Almanac," and if it were the same as when commenced, would be satisfied to regulate their domestic affairs by its weather table.

He also printed the COLUMBIAN MAGAZINE, edited by Rev. John Chester, and the MESSENGER OF PEACE, which continued but for one year (1824) edited by Richard Carrique, Esq.

Mr. Stoddard was small and of a slender constitution, but lived to the age of seventy-eight years, dying in the month of October, 1840, a worthy and greatly respected citizen. Up to within a few days of his death his silvered head and trembling, bent form, were seen in personal attention to his business.

In 1801 the publication of the *BALANCE AND COLUMBIAN REPOSITORY* was commenced by Ezra Sampson, George Chittenden and Harry Croswell, in the upper part of a store which then stood upon the spot now occupied as a garden connected with the residence of Mrs. Erastus Patterson, in Warren near Second street.

Mr. Sampson was a Presbyterian clergyman who, in the simplicity and force of his style, was said to resemble Dr. Franklin. He was for a short time, previous to 1800, settled over the Presbyterian church in this city, as a temporary supply. He died at an advanced age in the city of New York, and was buried in Hudson.

Mr. Chittenden was a book-binder, and for some years carried on his business in the small building so long known as "old Mr. Leslie's tailor shop," which stood upon the site of the present residence and store of A. Behrens. Shortly after, Mr. Chittenden went into the manufacture of paper in the town of Stockport, then a wilderness, in which he continued for nearly half a century, dying there in the year 1845, aged sixty-nine years.

Mr. Croswell was a printer, and not long afterwards became an Episcopalian minister, and was settled for a great many years in New Haven, where he died at an advanced age.

The *BALANCE* was first published as a neutral paper, but before the expiration of its first year became the organ of the Federal party, the proprietors refunding to such of the subscribers as did not like the change, their due proportion of subscription money. It was printed in small quarto form, upon coarse, dingy paper, but being edited with ability, had a large subscription and circulated throughout the United States. In 1808 it was removed to Albany, and in 1811 was discontinued.

In 1802 the publication of the *BEE* was commenced by Mr. Charles Holt, in the upper part of the store of Judge Dayton, which stood upon or very near the site of the present residence of Mrs. Peter G. Coffin; the lower part of the store being used for many years as the headquarters of the Democratic club. "There, 'round a red hot stove, in an atmosphere blue with tobacco smoke, seated upon old pine benches and wooden-bottomed chairs, with the dust and cobwebs of twenty years remaining undisturbed upon the shelves, met the great Anti-Federal fathers of the city." Prominent among them



were Robert Jenkins, described as "abrupt and decisive in his tone and manner"—Judge Dayton, "a good citizen and upright man, fond of argument; never convinced and never convincing"—Robert Taylor, "well-dressed, portly-looking, a little obstinate and a little crusty,"—David Lawrence, "a man of great respectability, keen observation, strong sense and ready wit,"—John Hathaway, "a worthy citizen and honest man,"—Squire Worth, "a man of integrity, good sense, but excessively odd; short, round-shouldered and *red-haired!* who once quarreled with an artist for making him look, in his portrait, he said, like a one-story house with the chimney on fire,"—and, lastly, Capt. Alexander Coffin, "frank, generous, warm-hearted and brave."

Mr. Holt, with some interruptions, had published the *Bee* for the previous five years, at New London, Conn. Having incurred a fine and imprisonment there, under the sedition act, it became necessary for him to seek another location, and being invited by the Republicans of Hudson, transferred his printing materials and paper to this city. Its circulation was about one thousand.

On the appearance of the *Bee* in Hudson, a small paper less than a letter sheet in size was issued from the office of Mr. Croswell, called the *WASP*, edited by "Robert Rusticcat, Esq." Its object was indicated by the following couplet :

"If perchance there comes a *Bee*,  
A *Wasp* shall come as well as he."

It was published but a short time, and both *Wasp* and *Bee* stung with personal abuse.

There was much violent controversy between Messrs. Holt and Croswell, and the columns of the *Bee* and *Balance* were filled with harsh personalities, which led the editors into frequent difficulties. Both papers were ably conducted and warmly supported by their respective parties. While the Republican or Democratic club was composed of citizens of the "more rough and honest sort," the Federal club was made up of "lawyers and men of distinguished ability," and it was said had among its members, the wit, talent and gentlemen of the city. Elisha Williams, one of the most influential politicians in the State, was its acknowledged leader, but prominent among its members were Bay, Grosvenor, McKinstry, Hyatt, Hosmer, Hubbel, Gelston and many other of the leading citizens of that day. Their meetings were always held in the best furnished room of some one of the public houses.

In addition to the clubs, each party maintained a large and well-trained instrumental band, composed exclusively of members of the party. The uniform

of the Republican band was white ; that of the Federal was a red coat with white pantaloons.

Party strife at this time and long after was bitter to a degree not exceeded, if equalled, at the present day. Not only in the press did this manifest itself, but in the social and business circles, indeed everywhere. Personal collisions were not unfrequent.

An article appeared in the Bee which bore heavily upon Elisha Williams. Mr. Williams, taking with him two or three of his political friends, whom he stationed in the cellar of an unfinished building, that they might by their aid secure him fair play, if needed, waited near Mr. Holt's office, and upon his appearance in the street knocked him down. The affair, from the position of the parties engaged in it, created a great excitement in the political ranks. Capt. Alexander Coffin, who was a noble-hearted old man, as well as an ardent Democrat, said that since the Federals had begun that kind of work, the Democrats had better make a finish of it, and offered to be one of twenty men to meet twenty picked Federals and fight the matter out! The Captain's novel method of settling political difficulties was not adopted, but he undoubtedly *meant* it. He was a man of strong political prejudices, fiery temperament, and always ready for a fight. At the polls upon an election day, a dog unfortunately passed between his legs, causing him to fall. Upon arising, ignorant of the cause of his misfortune, and attributing it to some political opponent, he turned in a belligerent attitude, shouting, "Come on, I can whip the whole d—n lot of you!" Upon another occasion, it is related of him, that a young man wishing to explain some matter then in dispute, laid his hand upon the Capt's shoulder and requested him to step to the door. Mistaking the object of his request, he replied, "Yes Sir—fist or pistols ; don't care a d—n which!" The absurdity of the thing brought down a hearty laugh, in which the Capt., perceiving his mistake, readily joined. He was at that time over eighty years of age, and throughout his long life was a man of great personal respectability, possessing many noble qualities. His portrait, after his death, was placed by the City in the Common Council room, where it still remains.

In 1810 Mr. Holt sold out his establishment and went to New York, Mr. Samuel W. Clark becoming his successor in the publication of the Bee. Mr. Clark was its proprietor until 1821. It was the organ of that portion of the public who justified the war of 1812, and numbered among its contributors Martin Van Buren, Benj. F. Butler, John W. Edmonds, and others of equal talent and position. Its next proprietor was John W. Dutcher, who changed the name to that of Columbia Centinel, and two years thereafter united it with the Columbia Republican.

Mr. Holt died not many years since in Jersey City, having in his old age obtained a remission of his fine, with an allowance of interest by the Government. Mr. Clark died in this city in 1832, aged 53 years.

In 1807 a paper in the interest of the Lewisite portion of the Democratic party was established, but shortly afterwards discontinued. It was called the **REPUBLICAN FOUNTAIN**.

In 1808 Francis Stebbins commenced the **NORTHERN WHIG**, and was succeeded by Wm. L. Stone, (afterward of the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser,) from 1811 to 1816. Mr. Stone's successor was Richard L. Corse, a writer of ability, who continued it till 1821, when it passed into the hands of Wm. B. Stebbins, son of the original proprietor, who discontinued it in 1824. Its circulation was large, and it was considered one of the ablest Federal papers in the State. It numbered among its regular contributors Elisha Williams, William W. Van Ness, Thomas P. Grosvenor, James Van Derpoel and others of that stamp.

In 1817 a literary paper, called the **SPIRIT OF THE FORUM AND BRIEF REMARKER** appeared, but seems to have had a short existence.

The **COLUMBIA REPUBLICAN** commenced its existence in 1820, under the charge of Solomon Wilber, as a Democratic paper. In 1824, through the efforts of Ambrose L. Jordan, by whom it was purchased, its political character was changed. From 1824 to 1834, it was at different times published by Ambrose L. and Allen Jordan, Charles F. Ames, and Samuel Curtiss. From 1834 to 1843 its proprietor was Lawrence Van Dyke. P. Byron Barker was next, for about one year, its owner, when it was disposed of to Messrs. Palen & Jordan, Mr. Barker remaining editor. In 1845 it was purchased by Messrs. Bryan & Moores, Mr. Moores retiring in 1851. It is now published by Messrs. Bryan & Webb. It has been since 1824 the organ of the Whig party, and in later years of the Republican, and is ably and judiciously conducted.

After the purchase of the Republican by Mr. Jordan, the **HUDSON GAZETTE**, (2d) was established, mainly through the efforts of Oliver Wiswall and Solomon Wescott. It was commenced in the year 1824 by Peleg Sturtevant, in the upper part of the store of Reuben Folger on the North-east corner of Warren and Second streets. There was a Democratic reading room also in the same building. Mr. Sturtevant a few months afterwards transferred it to Hiram Wilber. Mr. Wilber continued its publication until the year 1834, when it passed into the possession of P. Dean Carrique, who was its proprietor for near a quarter of a century. In the year 1854 it passed into the control of



S. L. Magoun, Esq., as Assignee, and after a succession of changes of ownership it was purchased by Messrs. Williams & Brother, in 1859, by one of whom it is now neatly published and ably edited. It has always been the organ of the Democratic party, or of some one of its divisions.

The COLUMBIA WASHINGTONIAN under J. R. S. VanVleet was commenced in 1842, as the advocate of "total abstinence." In 1843 it was transferred to Warren Rockwell. In 1847 Mr. Rockwell sold the establishment to Alexander N. Webb, who, in the year 1850, changed its name to the HUDSON WEEKLY STAR, and still continues to publish it.

In 1847, Mr. Webb also commenced the publication of the DAILY EVENING STAR, and still continues it as the HUDSON DAILY STAR.

In 1824, a semi-monthly literary paper, called the RURAL REPOSITORY, was started by Wm. B. Stoddard, neatly printed, in quarto form. It was discontinued in the year 1851, to the great regret of the large number of families in which for so long a time it had been a regular and welcome visitor.

The COLUMBIA & GREENE CO. ENVOY was commenced in 1831 by Edward G. Linsley, and continued two years.

The DIAMOND, semi-monthly, was published in 1833 by George F. Stone.

The MAGNOLIA, a semi-monthly, was published by P. Dean Carrique in 1834.

The FLAIL and the THRASHER were political campaign papers, in the Tippecanoe times of 1840.

The TEMPERANCE PALLADIUM was published by John W. Dutcher in 1851.

The DEMOCRATIC FREEMAN, an organ of the Free Soil Democracy, was brought to this city from Chatham Four Corners in the year 1848, and under the editorship of Charles H. Collins, published until 1851. In that year it passed into the control of Wm. Caldwell, and was shortly after discontinued.

The AMERICAN REPOSITORY, a paper supporting Fillmore for the Presidency in 1856, was commenced in that year, but discontinued shortly after the election. Its editor was R. Van Antwerp, who, a short time previous to the Repository, also commenced the publication of a Daily which continued for two months.

The COLUMBIA COUNTY FAMILY JOURNAL, a semi-monthly literary paper, was commenced in 1861, by F. H. Webb, but discontinued after the expiration of six months, Mr. Webb having become associated in the proprietorship of the Republican.

## LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS, &amp;C.

The first public library of which we find any mention made, was established as early as 1786. It was a circulating library of three hundred volumes which were furnished to subscribers at the following rates : four dollars per year, one dollar and twenty five cents per quarter, and to occasional readers at the rate of two cents per day. Subscribers were allowed to retain books as long as desired, except books new and in great demand, which must be returned within one week, and for the use of the library they could pay either in money or desirable books. We find nothing more concerning it, save a notice that persons desirous of subscribing, could do so by leaving their names at the printing office of the Gazette.

Another library was founded shortly after this, by an association of gentlemen, called the "Columbia Library Association," but of its rules and regulations we find no account, nor of its officers, save that Shubael Worth was for many years Librarian, and Henry P. Skinner Clerk. The library was at first and for a long time after kept in the store of Mr. Worth, built by him on the N. West corner of Main and Second streets, better known in later years as "Sprague's corner." It received a poor support and never was in a prosperous condition, but kept up an existence for many years ; Robert A. Barnard, Esq. acting as its last President. Being constantly and considerably in debt, all their effects, including books, were finally sold, that the association might at least die honorably.

In 1786 a debating society was established calling itself the "Union Debating Club." We have nothing in relation to it, save that the following questions were discussed at its first meeting :

First. "Will the establishment of the Union Debating Society prove a benefit to Hudson ?"

Second. "*Is the Slave trade consistent with principles of humanity ?*"

The Hudson Forum was established in the year 1826 and existed until about 1835. Its Officers consisted of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Board of Directors, who decided upon the questions for debate, and at each meeting assigned the disputants for the next. It was supported by a membership fee of twenty-five cents per year, and having a large number of members, this afforded an ample fund for all of its expenses. The debates of the Forum were extremely popular, and drew audiences quite as crowded as the lectures of the F. L. Association at the present day. Nearly all of the younger members of the bar of that day, and students, many of whom are

now eminent in their profession, participated in them. In 1839 the following question was debated :

*"Is there a prospect of a dissolution of the Union within the next fifty years ?"*

And in December, 1834, the following :

*"Are the principles of the Colonization Society more deserving the support of the people of the United States than those of the Anti-Slavery Society ?"*

We have no account of the debate or decision upon the former, but great interest was manifested in the debate upon the latter question, and from one of the papers of that date, we take the following account of it :

"COLONIZATION DEBATE.—We do not recollect a question which has excited such general and deep interest as the one selected by the members of the Hudson Forum, for the subject of their first discussion. At an early hour on the appointed evening, the Court-House was thronged to overflowing by an auditory of the highest respectability from this and its adjacent towns. The public excitement in regard to the removal and colonization of the blacks has reached us in full force, and the intimate connection which the subject has with the honor and destiny of the country, is profoundly realized. Indeed, every thinking person must be convinced that the agitation of the public mind throughout the country upon this subject is not uncalled for, though it may be premature. As if slavery did not of itself present a sufficiently alarming prospect, associations have been formed having as their object its immediate abolition. Pamphlets have been published, and public meetings held with this purpose. Fire-brands from the press have been thrown into the Southern States, having the tendency to excite and hasten a general insurrection of the blacks. Meanwhile the Colonization Society offering a benevolent project for the amelioration of the negro's condition, and his eventual emancipation and removal, is assailed with a violence of opposition and virulence of language which manifest anything but the spirit of philanthropy. The principal advocate of the Anti-Slavery measures appears before a British audience and there traitorously slanders the country that gave him birth and to which he owes allegiance. The North is now called upon to decide between the rival societies ; with the South there is no question about it. Such a decision expressive of the public sentiment in this City has been recently had."

"Upon the first evening of the debate, the question was argued by Edwin C. Litchfield, Esq. and Hon. H. Hogeboom on the affirmative, and J.W. Fairfield, Esq., for the negative. Upon the adjourned meeting the discussion was conducted by Mr. Litchfield, Campbell Bushnell, Esq. and Rev. Jared Waterbury in the affirmative, and John D. Parker, Esq., J. W. Fairfield, Esq., and a black man whose name if he has one, we are not in the possession of, in the negative. We were never more struck with the quizzing propensities of our laughter-loving citizens than on this occasion. 'Negative,' 'negative,' 'negative,' issued from many a man friendly to the Colonization Society, but determined to enjoy the joke of astonishing its advocates upon the floor with the little effect their learned arguments had produced. As it was, however, the Affirmative was carried by an overwhelming majority. We are not disposed to make critical remarks upon the debate, but must say that we considered the speech of Campbell Bushnell, Esq., a master-piece of argument and eloquence. The Negative was also ably and zealously sustained."



In 1835 an association styling itself the "Hudson Association for mutual improvement," was organized with the following officers :

ELISHA JENKINS, President. Cyrus Curtiss, Rufus Reed, Joseph D. Monell, James Mellen, Vice Presidents. Edwin C. Litchfield, Secretary.

The exercises consisted alternately of lectures, addresses and debates. It continued only through the first winter of its organization.

The Franklin Library Association was organized in the year 1837. In the year 1834, a few young men, most of whom were connected by family ties, met at the tallow chandler's shop of William A. Carpenter, (then on Cross street, the lot being now occupied by the Hudson River Rail Road as a wood yard,) and organized a debating club, which they called the Franklin Debating Society. Its design being that all should engage in debate, new officers were chosen at each meeting. The first meeting for debate was held in the Orthodox Friends meeting house in Union street, January 17th, 1835. Robert Smith was chosen Moderator, Geo. W. Carpenter Secretary, the following individuals in addition embracing the entire membership at that time : Hiram Macy, James Batchellor, William A. Carpenter, Thomas Marshall, William R. Steel, Edward B. Macy, Richard M. Remington and John Hamlin. The question discussed was the following :

"Ought mechanical labor in state prisons to be abolished ?"

Hiram Macy and William A. Carpenter opening the debate and choosing the disputants to follow. The club continued to meet regularly for debate, declining to admit any new members during that winter.

The method subsequently adopted for the admission of members was to ballot for the candidate proposed for membership, without his knowledge, and if the vote was unanimous apprise him of the fact of his election and invite him to become a member. Its support was from individual contributions.

The first annual meeting was held in the building then known as the Select Academy, in Third Street ; George W. Carpenter, by appointment, delivering the address, which was followed by brief remarks from the members generally.

At this meeting a proposition was made by Wm. A. Carpenter to connect with the Association a library and to take measures to secure a permanent location. The proposition was adopted and resulted in the erection of a small but convenient room in Union Street, upon the lot now occupied by Capt. George Barker ; the building having been since removed is now occupied as a Chapel by the Episcopal church. It was built by an association of members of the debating club called the Franklin Hall Association, with a capital of three hundred and seventy-five dollars in shares of five dollars each. The work of collecting a library was immediately entered upon, and in 1837 the

Franklin Library Association was regularly organized, with Wm. R. Steel as President, James Batchellor Secretary, and during the following winter was incorporated with Wm. A. Carpenter as President, Hiram Macy, Vice President, Chas. A. Darling, Secretary ; the other officers consisting of a Treasurer, and a Board of Directors. It still acts under the same charter, the only original members now belonging to it being Hiram Macy and William A. Carpenter. With the exception of Edward B. Macy, its founders are all living, five of them now residents of the city.

The first lecture before the Association was delivered by Prof. Potter (now Bishop) of Union College, in 1838, in the old Episcopal Church ; his subject, "Truth."

In 1837 through the liberal contributions of fifty dollars each from James Mellen, (whose portrait the Association has placed in its Library room,) Cyrus Curtiss and Elihu Gifford, a philosophical apparatus was purchased, at a cost of about six hundred dollars, the remainder being made up by stock in shares of ten dollars each. This apparatus was in later years disposed of by the Association and is now in use in the Female Academy of Rev. J. B. Hague.

The first lawyer admitted as a member of the F. L. Association was Theodore Miller, Esq., by whom the first annual report of its executive committee was drawn.

From this small beginning has grown an Association now numbering a membership of nearly two hundred and fifty ; possessing a library of about twenty-five hundred volumes, sustaining annually a course of lectures, and with an income during the last year from all sources, of about fourteen hundred dollars.

#### SCHOOLS.

We find frequent mention made in early years of the establishment of Schools, the granting of various lots for the erection of school houses, and the building of a Proprietors' school house, but no provision seems to have been made for free education until the year 1816. In the month of September in that year, a number of gentlemen met at the Library room, for the purpose of taking into consideration the practicability of establishing a Lancaster School, for the gratuitous education of the children of the poor. Ezra Sampson was chosen chairman, Josiah Underhill Secretary. The result of the meeting was the organization of a Society called the "Hudson Lancaster Society," which was incorporated by an act of the Legislature passed April 15th, 1817, with the following Trustees :

Elisha Williams,

James Strong,

Robert Taylor,

Judah Paddock,  
Thomas Jenkins,  
Prosper Hosmer,  
Josiah Underhill,

Daniel Coffin,  
Patrick Fanning,  
Samuel Plumb,

Samuel White,  
Robert Alsop,  
Thomas Bay.

The erection of a building was commenced in 1817, the lot having been granted for that purpose by the Common Council, the other expenses being defrayed by donations. The first teacher employed by the Trustees was Josiah Underhill. It was not wholly a free school, one hundred scholars at first receiving gratuitous education, the number afterwards being changed according to the financial condition of the Society. A committee of the Trustees visited the school monthly, and no scholar was admitted without the inspection of a physician, if required by the teacher, and none continued in the school whose parents would not keep them clean in all respects and decently clothed. For its support it received from the Common Council the school money, the excise fund, and that from lottery licenses, the balance needed being raised by individual contributions. Not long after its establishment an effort was made to withdraw from it a portion of the fund received from the city. It was strongly opposed and did not succeed; it seems, however, at one time to have seriously interfered with its successful operation, for we find Henry Dibblee and Cornelius Miller offering to become personally responsible for the education of fifty children, until the Council should abandon the effort to take from the school the fund apportioned to it. In 1828, a committee of the society reported the number of children in the compact portion of the city, between the ages of five and sixteen, to be 1012. In the same year steps were taken for the support of an "African School" in connection with the Lancaster. The committee appointed to raise funds, reported that the different religious societies would contribute annually to its support as follows: Universalist, \$25; Presbyterian, \$25; Friends, \$25; Episcopal, \$20; Methodist, \$12; Baptist, \$12. The Lancaster Society appropriated \$25, and petitioned the Common Council for and received an annual donation of \$50. The school was immediately established in the old or first Methodist Church in Third street, not now standing."

The Lancaster School was sustained until the year 1841, but in its later years had not an income adequate to its support, the ladies at last coming to its aid with the proceeds of a fair. In that year the Board of Trustees conveyed their school property to the Common Council. In the same year the present public schools of the city were organized. The last Trustees of the Lancaster School were:

Laban Paddock,

Gayer Gardner,

Charles Darling,



Charles McArthur,  
Cyrus Curtiss,  
Charles Paul.

John Power,  
A. V. V. Elting,

Israel Platt,  
Robert McKinstry,

Its earliest supporter and the most liberal contributor to it, is said to have been Capt. Judah Paddock, with whom it was a favorite project. At his death he also left a fund to be devoted to its support. Capt. Paddock was a man of wealth, energetic and benevolent. He retired from the seas in 1807. Nearly every one is familiar with the narrative of his shipwreck on the coast of Barbary and subsequent confinement among the Arabs, published many years ago, and recently re-published in the columns of the *Hudson Gazette*. Previous to this he was engaged in trade with the West Indies, afterwards with Liverpool and Russia. He died in the year 1822. Both Judah and Laban, who recently died, an old and greatly respected citizen, for almost four score years identified with the history of Hudson, were sons of Stephen Paddock, one of the original proprietors. There is preserved in the Masonic Lodge of this city, a sword presented prior to 1800, to Judah Paddock, by the Empress Catharine, of Russia, for relieving a Russian man-of-war when in distress, and by him presented to the Lodge, of which he was one of the earliest members, in 1807, "as a token of his high regard for masonry."

The Hudson Academy was chartered in the year 1807, with the following Trustees :

Ezra Sampson,  
Peter Van Denbergh,  
Harry Croswell,  
John Swift,  
Reuben Sears,  
Elisha Williams,  
Wm. W. Van Ness,  
Ebenezer Reed,

Timothy Babcock,  
William Frazer,  
Peter Van Rensselaer,  
William Ashley,  
Luther Dunning,  
Joseph Mosely,  
Benjamin Miller,  
John Bennett,

Noah Gridley,  
William Whiting.  
Sam'l J. Ten Broeck,  
William Shaw,  
Cornelius Tobey,  
Wilam Noyes, Jr.,  
Obed W. Folger.

The erection of the building was commenced in the year 1805, the land for that purpose having been given by Captain Seth G. Macy, another of that class of citizens so numerous in the early days of Hudson, who, retiring from the seas, became active in everything that could promote the prosperity of the city. Capt. Macy built and occupied the fine residence now belonging to Capt. Lathrop, in Stockport, (then Hudson) and established the works afterwards purchased by Joseph Marshall, and so extensively known as Marshall's Print works.

The small collection of buildings on the Academy hill was at that time known as Unionville. The first house erected there was by Capt. Wm. Ashley, now the residence of George McKinstry, Esq. To the first individual who should

erect a house there, was to be given the privilege of naming the hill. Capt. Ashley claimed it, and after some disagreement with others interested, declared that he "named that hill Prospect hill, and Prospect hill it shall be." It had previously been called Windmill hill, but has ever since been known by the name given to it by Mr. Ashley. It could not have been more appropriately named, for it affords a prospect which for extent, beauty and variety, is rarely equalled.

The first teacher in the Academy was Andrew M. Carshore. He remained but one year and was followed by Ashbel Strong. Among those who subsequently filled the position were Amasa J. Parker, now Judge of the Supreme Court of this State, and Josiah W. Fairfield, Esq., of this city. Among the many who have studied within its walls, was one to whom all eyes are now directed and who fills a large place in the nation's heart: Gen. H. W. Halleck. He was connected with the institution about three years, under the name of Wager; taking the name of his grandfather, to avoid the cruelty of an unnatural and tyrannical father.

The Hudson Select Academy in Third street, was built in 1813, by an association of which Seth Jenkins, who was chiefly interested in its establishment, was President. It ceased many years ago to be used for the purpose for which it was erected and was never deemed a successful undertaking. Mr. Jenkins made a great effort to secure the passage of an Act by the Legislature, granting to the Academy the fishing grounds in the vicinity of Hudson, with the right to impose a tax upon all persons fishing upon them, the income to go to the support of the institution. He was strongly opposed and failed in his attempt, but it gave to the building the name of the "Shad Academy," by which for many years it was known.

The first School opened in Hudson was by James Burns, in the year 1783, in a small building then standing upon the County road, near the river, upon the site of the present store of William Poultney, built by the inhabitants at Claverack Landing for a school house. It remained there until Front street was opened. During the blasting of rocks necessary in opening the street, Mr. Burns always dismissed his school, seeking some place of safety until the firing was over. Laban Paddock, Seth Jenkins and many others, who were afterwards leading citizens, were pupils of Mr. Burns. Henry Harder or "old Doct. Harder" as he is now familiarly called, who is still living, was also a pupil, then seven years old. With the opening of Front street, the building was demolished, and the Diamond street school house, before mentioned, was erected.

The system under which the Public Schools of the city are at present conducted was adopted in the year 1841. They exist under a special act of the Legislature, and are under the control of Superintendents, who receive their appointment from the Common Council. The schools are four in number, three white and one colored. Ample provision is made for their support and they rank among the most efficient and thorough in the State. The first Superintendents were Oliver Bronson, Josiah W. Fairfield and Cyrus Curtiss. The present Superintendents are Robert B. Monell, Lorenzo G. Guernsey and Hiram Morrison. The average number of children in attendance is about seven hundred and fifty. The number of children in the city between the ages of four and twenty-one is twenty-three hundred and eighty-three. The present number of teachers engaged is seventeen. The amount expended for the support of the schools is about the sum of five thousand dollars. The number of volumes in the public school library is twelve hundred and fifty.

In private schools of a high order, Hudson has never been deficient. Those existing at the present day, the Rev. J. B. Hague's and the Misses Peake's for young ladies, the Rev. E. Bradbury's, Rev. J. R. Coe's and Wm. P. Snyder's, for boys, are among the very best in the country.

#### MASONIC ORDER.

We have before alluded (page 15) to the grant of a lot by the proprietors and the erection of St. Johns Hall, by the Masonic Lodge of this city. The Lodge was organized in the year 1787, three years after the settlement of the place. In the month of March in that year, a petition, signed by

Seth Jenkins,	Thomas Frothingham,	Thomas Worth,
Jared Coffin,	Robert Folger,	William Wall,
Joseph Hamilton,	Lemuel Jenkins,	Daniel Gano,
John McKinstry,	Shubael Worth,	David Lawrence,
John Thurston,	Joseph Olney,	Benjamin Chace,
John Pennoyer,	Isaac Bateman,	Samuel Mansfield,

was presented to the Grand Lodge of the State of New York by Daniel Gano, requesting that a charter might be granted them, "for the purpose of making, passing and raising Free Masons." It was given them in the month of May, and in June the following individuals proceeded to Albany, and were installed the first officers of Hudson Lodge, by the Worshipful Senior Grand Warden :

Worshipful Seth Jenkins, Master ; Jared Coffin, S. W. ; David Lawrence, J. W. ; Samuel Mansfield, Treas'r ; Daniel Gano, Sec'y ; Thomas Frothingham, S. D. ; Simeon Stoddard, J. D. ; Shubael Worth, Benjamin Chace, Stewards.

The first celebration of the Festival of St. John the *Evangelist*, in the



County of Columbia, took place at Hudson in 1787, under the direction of Lemuel Jenkins, Shubael Worth and Paul Hussey. Ezekiel Gilbert delivered "an elegant oration," for which he received the thanks of the Lodge through David Lawrence and Levi Wheaton. After the oration, the Lodge proceeded to a dinner at the house of Brother Joseph Gordon. The Festival of St. John the *Baptist* was first celebrated in 1788, under the direction of Ambrose Spencer, Samuel Mansfield and Joseph Gordon, "at which time, a sensible and well adapted oration," was delivered by Doct. Levi Wheaton.

Prior to the erection of a hall, it was the custom of the Lodge to hold its meeting at some one of the public houses. The first meeting was held at the house of John McKinstry, whom we have before mentioned as the keeper of the first public house in Hudson. In Stone's life of Brant, we find related the following interesting incident in the life of Mr. McKinstry :

He was an officer in the Revolutionary army, was engaged in the battle at Bunker's Hill, and during the Canadian campaign, commanded a company at Cedar Keys on the river St. Lawrence, where his command was sharply engaged by a body of Indians under Brant, before whom his troops were several times compelled to retire. Rallying however with spirit, the Indians were repulsed in turn, and the respective forces were thus successively driven by each other back and forth, according to the doubtful and varying fortunes of the hour, until the Americans were overpowered by numbers and compelled to surrender. Capt. McKinstry being wounded, fell by the side of a tree and was taken prisoner by the Indians. He subsequently ascertained that he had been selected by them as a victim, and that the usual preparations had been made for putting him to death by the torture of fire. He remembered to have heard that Brant was a Mason, and gaining his eye, gave him the proper sign, and thus secured his release and subsequent kind treatment. Through the personal exertions of Brant, in connexion with some humane English officers, a sum of money was raised, and an ox purchased which was given to the Indians and by them roasted in the flames kindled for their gallant prisoner. Capt. McKinstry never forgot the kindness of Brant. He afterwards became a Colonel, and after a residence of a few years in this city, moved upon a farm in the Manor of Livingston, where he several times entertained Brant as his guest. Brant's last visit was in 1805, when, in company with Col. McKinstry, he visited the Lodge in this city, where his presence attracted great attention.

The erection of a building was commenced by the Lodge in 1795, in which year it seems to have had a large accession to its numbers. Laban Paddock was an active member of the building committee, It was occupied in 1796, and we have the following account of the

### “PERFORMANCES

of the dedication of Mason Hall, Hudson, Anno Lucis 5796, corresponding to December 27, 1796.”

### PROCESSION, &c.

On the morning of the Festival the Brethren convened at Brother Joseph Gordon's, and moved from thence in the following order to the Lodge Room, viz.:

Tyler with drawn Sword.  
Deacons, with Rods.  
Four Brethren, supporting the altar, two and two.  
Six Brethren, two and two.  
A Brother with Pitcher of Wheat.  
Three Brethren.  
A Brother with Pitcher of Wine,  
Three Brethren.  
A Brother with Pitcher of Oil.  
Nine brethren, three and three.  
Stewards, with Wands.  
First LIGHT, carried by an Officer.  
Three Brethren.  
Second LIGHT, by an Officer.  
Three Brethren.  
Third LIGHT, by an Officer.  
Three Brethren.  
Wardens, with Jewels.  
ARCHITECT, with Square, Level and Plumb.  
Brethren, Workmen on Lodge, two and two with Instruments.  
Officer, carrying Bible, Square and Compass on velvet Cushion.  
Secretary, with Bag and Jewels.  
Two Brethren.  
Treasurer, with Staff and Jewels.  
Two Brethren.  
Chaplains for the Day, with Gown and Scarfs.  
Brethren of Hudson Lodge, two and two.  
Visiting Brethren of different Lodges, not in Office, two and two.  
Officers of Lodges not engaged previously, two and two, with Scarfs and Jewels.  
MASTER of Hudson Lodge, with Book of Constitutions.  
Deacons of Hudson Lodge, with Rods.

In the above order the Procession arrived at the LODGE ROOM, where they were accosted by Brother Ernst and the Choristers with the following Anthem, composed and set to Music by him, accompanied with Instruments of Music, until the Procession had gradually walked three times round the Hall.

### ANTHEM.\*

Meditate :

Mortal Creature ! on Death Summons. Hesitate :

Not one Moment on God's Judgment seriously to contemplate !

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\*The Words of this Anthem are but a feeble Display of its musical Excellencies and Variations, when properly performed.

Be in constant Readiness ;  
 For without Pleasure and e'er thou dost guess,  
 May'st thou experience a deadly Distress.  
 How shall then  
 Divine Justness—on thy Goodness—Sentence give—  
 When contrary to His Statutes thou did'st live ?  
 Shalt thou not in Anguish hover—  
 Shall thy Heart within not shiver—  
 When Reproaches thee do cover : at God's Bar ?  
 When to avenge Transgression—  
 God hears no Intercession—  
 But makes a Declaration—just and fair.—  
 Therefore, O Mortal ! at present give Ear.  
 For to die happy, be times thee prepare :  
 Or thou wilt suffer eternally there !

When the ALTAR was placed in the center of the Hall on which were deposited the three pitchers, and the three great and three lesser LIGHTS, on proper Pedestals, and in ancient Form, the Masters and Past Masters took their seats ; the rest of the Brethren standing and joining in the following Anthem.

To Heaven's high Architect all praise,  
 All praise, all gratitude be given,  
 Who deign'd the human Soul to raise,  
 By mystic Secrets sprung from Heaven.

CHORUS.

Sound aloud the GREAT JEHOVAH'S praise,  
 To HIM the Dome, the Temple raise !

The Anthem ended; the Architect, in behalf of himself and working Brethren, advanced to the Master, and offered the return of the Implements used in erecting and finishing the Building : The Master, expressing his approbation in behalf of the Society, requested his Officers to take the Implements and place them on a triangular Pedestal, erected for the purpose ; and all the Brethren then seated themselves, and assisted in singing the following Anthem, composed by Brother Ernst.

(Tune, "God save Great Washington.")

I.

O Thou great Architect !  
 WE, who're yet full Defect,  
 On Thee now call :  
 In a rough State we are,  
 Graciously US prepare,  
 According to Thy Square,  
 Lord over all.

II.

There is a Day of Grace,  
 Given the human Race :  
 For them t' improve.  
 Let us do as the Wise :  
 Pray, work and rest precise,  
 Follow but thine Advice  
 LORD God of Love !

III.

Time flies on Wings away,  
 Makes for us here no stay,  
 But hastes in flight.  
 LORD ! may each Moment be  
 Improved carefully :  
 For an Eternity  
 Before thy sight.

IV.

Signs of Mortality  
 May teach Humility :  
 Men as we are.  
 LORD ! let not Death's dire Blow  
 Lay all our Prospects low,  
 But teach us Thee to know  
 And to prepare.



## V.

As *WE* advance in Light,  
 So shall we more unite :  
 In Bonds of Love.  
 May every Hand and Heart,  
 Unite in pious Art ;  
 To give the due Desert :  
 To GOD above.

## VI.

To an industr'ous Bee  
 We condescend and see :  
 Order and Wealth.  
 May *WE*, while here in Life,  
 Be subject without strife ;  
 Sheltered by *our* Hive  
 Have Bread and Health.

## VII.

In thy great House, O LORD !  
*Beauty* and *Strength* accord,  
 These ne'er give 'way.

May strength and Beauty be :  
 Pillars of Masonry  
 And the Fraternity :  
 Never decay.

## VIII.

Let *All* exalt their Voice,  
 Let *All* at once rejoice :  
 To sound thy Fame,  
 Thou great ! great Architect !  
 Thy Children *all* connect  
 With Love and joint Respect :  
 To bless *thy* Name.

## IX.

From *All* beneath the skies,  
 JEHOVAH'S Praise arise,  
 His Name confes'd ;  
 And may his sovereign Grace ;  
 Shine upon every Face  
 And render Adam's Race  
 Happy and bles'd.

After which, the Brethren were called on to join in the PRAYER of DEDICATION, by Brother GARDINER.

The Master then ordered the Lodge tyled. The Lodge being opened, the Secretary informed the Master that it is the desire of the Society to have the Lodge dedicated ; on which intimation the Master requested the Officers and Chaplains present to assist in that ceremony. The Brethren all standing.

## CEREMONY OF DEDICATION.

The Master and Wardens advanced and took each a Pitcher ; then the Officers and Master followed the Junior Warden with the Pitcher of Corn, who at the end after first round poured out the Corn : "WE do in the Presence of the Supreme Architect of Heaven and Earth, DEDICATE THIS HALL TO MASONRY !" Which being proclaimed by the Secretary ; the Grand Honors were given by all present.

The Master and Officers then followed the Senior Warden once round ; who then poured out the Contents of the Pitcher of Wine, and "In the Name of Holy St. John !" dedicated the Hall to VIRTUE ; which being proclaimed by the Secretary, the Grand Honors were again given.

At the end of the third Procession, the Master then poured out the Pitcher of Oil, and "In the name of all the Brethren present," dedicated the Lodge to UNIVERSAL BENEVOLENCE, when the Grand Honors were given !

While the above ceremony was performing, solemn Music was given by Brother Ernst.

Immediately after the Dedication the following Anthem was sung by all the Brethren present.

"Oh Masonry ! our hearts inspire."  
 And warm us with thy sacred fire :

Make us obedient to thy Laws,  
And zealous to support thy cause :  
For thou and Virtue are the same,  
And differ only in the name.

“Pluck narrow notions from the mind,  
And plant the love of Human Kind,  
Teach us to feel a brother's woe,  
And feeling comfort to bestow.  
Let none unheeded draw the sigh,  
No grief unnoticed, pass us by.

“Let swelling pride a stranger be,  
Our friend, compos'd Humility,  
Our hands let steady justice guide,  
And Temp'rance at our boards preside ;  
Let Secresy our steps attend,  
And injur'd Worth our tongues defend.

Drive Meanness from us ; fly Deceit,  
And Calumny, and rigid Hate :  
O ! may our highest Pleasure be,  
To add to man's Felicity ;  
And may we, as thy Vot'ries true,  
Thy paths, Oh MASONRY ! pursue.

The Anthem being finished, the Brethren proceeded to the Meeting-House in the following order.

Tyler, with drawn Sword.  
Deacons, with white Rods.  
Workmen on Lodge, two and two.  
Architect—(Brother Hathaway.)  
Brethren of Hudson Lodge, two and two.  
A Brother with Bible on Cushion.  
Chaplains, or Orators of the Day.  
Brethren of the neighbouring Lodges, not in office.  
Wardens, } Officers of Hudson Lodge.  
              } Officers of Visiting Lodges.  
Visiting Masters and Past Masters.  
MASTER of Hudson Lodge.  
Stewards with Wands, &c.

When seated in the Meeting-House, the following Anthem, set to Music by Brother Ernst, was performed, by the Choristers in the Gallery, viz.:

“Solo. Praise thou my Soul, the most mighty and great Lord of Glory.”

After which the Brethren and Congregation received the Benefit of a Prayer by Brother ERNST.

After the Prayer, the following Ode was sung by the Choristers. Set to Music by Brother Ernst.

Blessed, who with constant Pleasure,  
Studies GOD'S revealed Will ;  
Seeking there for heavenly Treasure,  
Day and Night, his Soul to fill.

He is like a living Tree,  
Which by gentle streams we see :  
Stretching forth its fruitful Branches  
'Till the gath'ring Time advances.

An ORATION by Brother GARDINER was then delivered.

The ORATION being ended, a Collection was made for the suffering Poor in the City of Hudson, by Brother TEN BROECK ; and then the following ODE was sung by the Brethren and Choristers of the Gallery jointly, viz. :

Praise GOD from whence all Blessings flow !  
Praise HIM all creatures here below !  
Praise HIM all ye Angelic Host !  
Praise FATHER, SON and HOLY GHOST.

Which concluded the Devotional Exercises of the Festival : when the Brethren returned in the same order they came, to Brother Joseph Gordon's to Dinner.

N. B. Brother Andrew Mayfield Carshore was appointed Master of the Ceremonies for the Day."

The "meeting house" in which these services took place was the Presbyterian, the use of which had been granted by the trustees, after much hesitation, and not until the Lodge agreed that an oration should be delivered instead of the preaching of a sermon. as at first intended.

The Lodge was organized as No. 13, but was incorporated in the year 1824 as Hudson Lodge No. 7, the property being vested in the Masters and Wardens. From it have originated the following organizations connected with the Order : Hudson Royal Arch Chapter No. 6, charter granted by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States, dated 1798 and signed by De-Witt Clinton, Deputy Grand High Priest ; Thomas Frothingham, Deputy Grand King ; Jedediah Sanger, Deputy Grand Scribe. Charter members were Samuel Edmonds, High Priest ; Thomas Frothingham, King ; Elisha Jenkins, Scribe. Chapter is still in existence.

Hudson Council No. 2, a Lodge of Royal Masters, was organized by a charter from the Grand Council of the State of New York in 1824. Charter members were Campbell Bushnell 1st officer, Charles Waldo 2d, Clark Smith 3d. The Council is not now in existence.

Lafayette Encampment was chartered by the Grand Encampment of the State of New York in the year 1824, with Lionel U. Lawrence 1st, Orrin E. Osborn 2d, and Gordon Dickson 3d officer, and is still existing.

Hudson Lodge, during the political excitement in the days of Anti-Masonry, kept up its organization through the persevering efforts of a few of its members. In 1841 the spirit of Masonry revived, from which period the Lodge



has steadily grown in numbers and now has a membership of one hundred and fifty. The present officers are, Cornelius Esselstyn, W. Master ; H. H. Crandall, S. Warden ; Frederick Best, J. Warden ; W. H. W, Loop, Sec'y ; Theodore Snyder, Treasurer ; J. M. Houck, S. Deacon ; Nelson Dutcher, J. Deacon. The Past Masters (who are honorary members for life, not subject to the payment of dues) now living, are Cyrus Curtiss, Stephen A. Coffin, George Barker, Cornelius Bortle, James Batchellor and William A. Carpenter.

Richard Carrique; who died in 1849, was at the time of his death Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. He was interred by the Grand Lodge, Hon. John D. Willard, Grand Master, of Troy, officiating, and a monument to his memory has been erected by the Grand Lodge in the burial ground of this city.

Hudson Lodge No. 7, may be considered about the oldest "public institution" in the city with which very nearly from the time of its settlement it has been co-existent. The society of Quakers only date their organization a short period previous to the Lodge, which was in a strong and flourishing condition years before any other church organization than the Quaker had been undertaken, and embraced in its membership most of the prominent citizens of that early day.

#### INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

Allen Lodge No. 92 was chartered by the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of the State of New York, August 3d, 1843, and instituted August 12th of the same year. Charter members were Alfred Drake, James Batchellor, Wm. H. Morey, M. L. Pultz, Alfred Heermance, M. D. Charlot. First officers : M. D. Charlot, Noble Grand ; M. L. Pultz, Vice Grand ; James Batchellor, Secretary ; Alfred Heermance, Treasurer.

The officers for the term ending December 31, 1862, were Wm. II. Converse, Noble Grand ; Henry Smith, Vice Grand ; Esdras Shear, Recording Secretary ; Wm. S. Taylor, Permanent Secretary ; Charles C. Malcher, Treasurer. Present number of members one hundred and twenty.

Hudson City Lodge No. 389 was chartered by the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of the State of New York, August 2d, 1849, and instituted August 9, 1849. Charter members were Abm. G. Vosburgh, Silas W. Tobey, M. W. Leland, Henry Miller, Wm. H. Coons, Wm. I. Traver, Wm. H. Crapser, Chas. Mitchell, M. H. Chrysler, John Crapser, Edward Crossman, John H. Charlot. First officers : Abm. G. Vosburgh, Noble Grand ; M. H. Chrysler, Vice Grand ; E. Crossman, Recording Secretary ; Henry Miller, Permanent Secretary ; Chas. Mitchell, Treasurer.

Officers for the term ending December 31st, 1862 : John Peeper, Noble Grand ; Samuel Kline, Vice Grand ; Wm. H. Crapser, Secretary ; Allen Reynolds, Treasurer. Present number of members thirty-five.

#### PATRIARCHAL BRANCH OF THE ORDER.

Union Encampment No. 10 was chartered by the Grand Encampment of the State of New York, July 8th, 1844, and instituted July 18th, 1844. Charter members were James Batchellor, M. L. Pultz, Chas. F. King, Wm. R. Steel, H. G. Fowler, Henry Doty, Stephen A. Coffin, Hazard Morey, Wm. H. Morey, Gordon Dickson, E. R. Abrahams, John L. Hills. First officers James Batchellor, Chief Patriarch ; M. L. Pultz, H. P. ; Stephen A. Coffin, Senior Warden ; Wm. R. Steel, Scribe ; Henry Doty, Treasurer ; Gordon Dickson, Junior Warden. Officers for the term ending December 31st, 1862, were E. C. Terry, Chief Patriarch ; J. H. Charlot, H. P. ; Franklin Taylor, Senior Warden ; Wm. S. Taylor, Scribe ; Charles Myers, Treasurer ; J. T. Waterman, Junior Warden.

#### OTHER BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES.

There have been at different periods, Divisions of the Rechabites, Sons of Temperance, United American Mechanics, and Daughters of Samaria organized, but existing for a short time only. About the year 1800 we find in existence an Association styled the "Hudson Mechanics' Association," and another the "Mechanics' Benevolent Association," but we can gather no facts relative to either. The Hudson Orphan and Relief Asylum was incorporated in the year 1846, with Messrs. Aaron C. Macy, Carey Murdock, Robert McKinstry, Elihu Gifford and Cyrus Curtiss as Trustees. It was established chiefly, indeed we may say wholly, through the efforts of Mrs. Robert McKinstry in the year 1843, and occupied the building, now the residence of Henry McCann, in Diamond street. Abner Hammond paid the rent of the building for the first year, and Mrs. McKinstry labored unceasingly to provide for its support and secure its establishment. In the year 1847 the present building was erected, the lot being given by Mr. Hammond, and the cost of the building, six thousand dollars, being paid by individual contributions.

Mrs. McKinstry during her life never ceased her active efforts for the comfort of its inmates or for its support, which has been chiefly hitherto from donations, aided by annual appropriations from the State and County. It was the desire and aim of her life that it should become self-sustaining ; a desire which she lived to see almost accomplished. It has now a permanent fund of near fifteen thousand dollars, with the certainty of additions which ere long will probably place it beyond need of the care and effort which past years have

called for. Upon the death of Mrs. McKinstry, which took place on the 22d day of June of the present year, the Managers of the Association paid their tribute to her self-denial and benevolence in the following resolution :

"That in the death of Mrs. McKinstry the Association has lost its earliest, warmest and most devoted friend and supporter ; that while we feel her loss can never be made up to the Association, or the city and county in which she resided, her example of unparalleled benevolence and self-denying efforts for this institution and to ameliorate the condition of the poor generally, calls upon us all to exert ourselves to imitate her example and follow in the footsteps of one whose whole life was spent in doing good to others."

#### CHURCHES.

The first religious organization in the city was that of the society called Friends or Quakers. In the proprietors' minutes we find a resolution to the following effect, passed Sept. 8th, 1784.

Whereas, divers of the Proprietors were members of the society called Quakers, and had requested that a piece of ground be set apart on their right for a meeting-house and school-house, that they should be authorized and empowered to make choice of such one of the public squares or lots, for a meeting-house as they should think proper, the lot to be given by the Proprietors, if built upon before any other society should make application. The half of another lot adjoining, was to be selected also, for a school-house. A deed of conveyance of the lots was to be given for the purpose mentioned, and that only. A lot upon the South side of Union street, seventy-five by sixty feet, near the corner of Third street was selected and conveyed to them where now stands the residence of Mr. E. M. Hedges, upon which a small frame building was erected.

The society increasing rapidly in numbers, purchased the lot upon the opposite side of Union street, Corner of Third, where in the year 1794 they erected a large brick building, fifty-two by thirty-eight feet, two stories in height, capable of accommodating six hundred people, and in which they worshipped until the year 1853. In that year an exchange having been effected with the Methodist society, the old building was demolished and the Friends occupied the building vacated by the Methodists, where they worship at present. This will doubtless be their last "meeting-house," the society having dwindled to a very few families in number.

The old brick meeting-house was built in strict accordance with the simplicity of taste and character which marked the sect at that day. It was totally devoid of exterior ornament, not boasting for many years even of a garb of paint, and with so little to designate its use that a stranger would not readily



have taken it to be a house of worship. The interior was fitted up with plain, high-backed, hard benches, upon which a protracted sitting was trying to flesh and blood. Facing these were arranged a few elevated seats upon which sat the elders and scribes of the society and from which the preachers discoursed, whenever the spirit moved them so to do. We were in our youthful days always made to believe, that from those seats the elders kept close watch of the juveniles, and if any one was caught napping, or in any impropriety, he was gently approached and reminded of the fact, by a friendly tap upon the head. Perhaps some one was specially deputed to this portion of the service. Few juveniles, we are certain, ever entered the "temple gate," without leaving behind every inclination to levity, or without the fear of a quakerly cane before their eyes. The building was divided by a moveable partition, which upon particular occasions was used to entirely separate the sexes. On all occasions the men occupied the left side of the house, the women the right. No part of the interior was ever painted. It would be difficult to imagine a more unattractive room in appearance, yet it harmonized closely with the gravity and silence of its occupants. Their worship was ordinarily silent. There were preachers among them who did however occasionally discourse to them :— mention has been particularly made of Thomas Comstock and Hannah Barnard.

Thomas Comstock not only preached to the society at home, but often felt himself impelled to visit and speak to Friends in different parts of the country.

Hannah Barnard was an extraordinary woman, one of the most gifted of her day, and probably the most intelligent female Friend in the country. She was of medium size and spare, with a keen black eye, and pleasing expression of countenance. She possessed great power of language, a remarkably inquisitive turn of mind, was a woman of much thought and extensive reading, and had travelled considerably in Europe ; but all her good qualities could not save her from falling under the censure of the society and being "read out of meeting."

During a visit to England and Ireland, which she proposed to extend to Germany, for the purpose of preaching, she fell into a controversy with Friends in England, who charged her with not being "in unity" in her belief respecting various parts of the Old and New Testament. After many interviews with her they recommended her to desist from speaking and "quietly return to her own habitation." They reported her to the meeting at Hudson as holding ideas inconsistent with the principles of truth as believed by the Friends of England, and upon her return here she was dealt with in a spirit of kindness, but failing

to convince her of her error, she was at first silenced as a preacher. After frequent conferences with her the committee appointed by the meeting at Hudson reported that they had no hope of her recovery from the dark and bewildered state of mind into which she had fallen, that she had so far become clouded in her mind as to be led away by the spirit of delusion and at last disowned her as a member of the society of Friends. This occurrence at the time attracted the attention of Friends throughout the country, from the great reputation she enjoyed among them.

Determined and independent, she did not fear to face committees or resolves of meetings. "I tell thee," said she to one of the old elders, who dealt with her, "thy '*ipse dixit*' doesn't pass for law with me." In her last remarks before the society she predicted that the "meeting of Hudson would come to nought."

The "Friends" were not only numerically strong, but the society embraced much of the wealth and influence of the city, and numbered among its members many of the most active and enterprising business men. It is said that at one time, fully two thirds of the families of the city were Quakers, and of the remaining third, the greater part were "half Quakers."

In the year 1828 a division occurred in the society throughout the country. Several families here, styling themselves "Orthodox," seceded from the old meeting, and built a small place of worship on the Southerly side of Union near Fourth street, where, few in number, they still meet. The original society was called "Hicksite," and after the division still remained very strong in numbers and influence.

In their discipline they were strict. Neglecting to attend public worship, sleeping in church, departures from plainness of speech or apparel, neglect to read the scriptures, indulging in the corrupt conversation of the world, reading of pernicious books, marrying or attending a marriage out of the society or where a "priest officiated," attending places of diversion or taverns, tale-bearing, backbiting, neglect of poor, nonpayment of just debts, holding of slaves, were a few among the many matters which were made the subjects of regular inquiry and report at their meetings. In all these particulars the greatest care and watchfulness were exercised by the society.

The same simplicity which marked their place and form of worship, marked their whole character and was carried into every department of life. They never uncovered their heads in worship, nor upon any public occasion, nor did they in their intercourse with each other or the "world's people," ever make use of any titles in their address, simply calling each other by their given names. In dress they observed the most severe plainness in every respect,

probably for many years not varying from a particular style, or certain variety of shades and material. No approach to ornament was ever attempted and jewelry never tolerated. They were cheerful and hospitable at their homes, but in their interior arrangements and mode of living the same simplicity was to be seen. Perhaps nowhere was their dislike of show more noticeable than upon funeral occasions. Until within quite a recent period nothing but the plain white pine coffin was ever seen, unstained, unvarnished and most frequently carried without even the customary black pall to hide it from public gaze. It may truly be said of them, they were a "peculiar people." Lovers of order, temperate, frugal, benevolent, regular in all their habits of life, industrious and peaceful in their pursuits, they were not only greatly respected as a class, but well calculated to increase the prosperity of their new home.

No sketch of Hudson would be complete without this tribute to the worth of the "Friends" of early days. There are at present, but few of the society left, and they to a great extent have laid aside the peculiarities which distinguished them in former days from the "world's people." It cannot be many years before the last plain Friend will have been seen in the streets of Hudson.

#### PRESBYTERIAN.

The second religious organization was that of the Presbyterian denomination, second in order, and at that time second in numbers and influence. In the year 1790, Marshal Jenkins applied to the proprietors for a grant of land upon which the society might erect a place of worship. The lot given by the proprietors, was upon the Easterly side of Second street, South of Union, now lying between Partition and Allen street, then known as Federal street. The erection of the building was commenced in the year 1790, and it was completed in 1792. It was a plain, but substantial brick building, capable of seating about five hundred people, and was surmounted by a spire of considerable height. The site of the church was a very beautiful one, commanding a full view of the river and mountains, and in an approach to the city from the South, the building was a very prominent object.

The society was organized in 1790, by the election of Nathaniel Greene, Marshall Jenkins, Russel Kellogg and Thomas Frothingham as Trustees. Until the erection of their church edifice, they worshipped in the City Hall. For several years the society was weak, and was supported mainly by the contributions of its wealthy members, but about the year 1800 grew rapidly in wealth and numbers. Shortly after they entered their building, a writer signing himself "Selah," censured them through the columns of the news-



paper for tolerating such poor singing, and urged them to patronize liberally a singing school which was soon to be opened. They were at that time without a choir, which he explained by stating that it had disbanded probably "disgusted" with its own music, and that the congregation certainly were.

The first pastor, Rev. John Thompson, was installed in the Spring of 1793, at a salary of one hundred and seventy-five pounds, and dismissed in the year following. In 1795 the Rev. Bildad Barney was settled as Pastor, for a short time only, the Rev. Ezra Sampson supplying the pulpit until the Spring of 1798, when the Rev. Chauncey Lee was settled, soon followed by the Rev. Reuben Sears, who remained its pastor until the year 1810. In that year the Rev. John Chester was ordained and remained until the year 1815, when the Rev. Benjamin F. Stanton was installed, who was dismissed in 1824. Upon the installation of both Mr. Chester and Mr. Stanton, a dinner, by direction of the church, was provided at Messrs. Nichols and Bement's, at which the Mayor and Corporation were invited to dine with the Presbytery. Mr. Stanton was succeeded by the Rev. William Chester, who remained its pastor until 1832. In the Spring of 1833, Rev. Jared B. Waterbury was settled and remained until 1846, when he was succeeded by Rev. Henry Darling. Its present pastor, Rev. William S. Leavitt, was settled in 1853.

The edifice now occupied by the society was erected in the year 1836, upon the site of the old City Hall, then generally known as the "old Court House," which at that time had stood just half a century. The present membership of the church is about three hundred and sixty. The number of families connected with the society is about two hundred.

#### METHODIST.

The third religious society organized was the Methodist. On the 12th day of March, in the year 1790, leave was granted by the Proprietors, upon application of Samuel Wigton, to build a place of worship upon some one of the public lots owned by them and to be selected by him. Marshall Jenkins and Cotton Gelston were appointed a committee to wait upon and confer with Mr. Wigton and give him his choice of land, not previously granted, "sufficient to accommodate him and his society." They reported to the Proprietors that they had selected a lot on the South East Corner of Third and Diamond streets, "back of John Hathaway's lot," and were then empowered by the Proprietors to convey same to the society. How long previous to this it had been established we cannot ascertain, but at that time it was small and occupied a building erected as a place of worship, afterwards used as a school-

house and owned by Mr. Wigton, situated upon the hill in Cherry Alley, running up from South Front Street.

After the grant of a lot to Mr. Wigton a small frame building was erected capable of accommodating two hundred persons, upon the site of their present parsonage, which they occupied until the erection, in the year 1825, of the building now occupied by the society of Friends. Their present Church edifice was erected in the year 1853.

Owing to the peculiar organization of the Methodist church, their minutes are wide-spread and we have been able to gather but few particulars concerning the society in this city; and so frequent their change of ministers, that it would be difficult to furnish their names. The society at present numbers, in communicants four hundred and thirteen, and in families about one hundred and twenty.

#### EPISCOPAL.

In the month of March, 1795, John Tallman and John Powell presented a petition in behalf of the Episcopal society, for a grant of land upon which to erect a house of worship. The petition was submitted to Thomas Jenkins, Alexander Coffin and David Lawrence, as a committee, who subsequently recommended that a quit-claim deed be given to John Tallman and John Powell as Wardens of the Episcopal church, in trust for said society, for a lot for the purpose of building a church thereon, and "that use only." The location of the lot first selected is not mentioned, but it was granted with the privilege to the Wardens of changing it, and subsequently was changed for the lot upon the corner of Second and State streets.

It was conditioned that the church should be erected within five years or the land should revert to the Proprietors. The building was commenced immediately, but progressed slowly from pecuniary embarrassments, and was not completed until the year 1802, and then not wholly, remaining without a steeple until the year 1823. The Proprietors, however, seem not to have taken advantage of the condition of the grant. The society suffered heavily from the defalcation of an individual by the name of Gardner, their first minister, who held the greater part of their building fund, and decamped with some three or four thousand dollars in his possession. In 1802 they adopted the title of Christ church. Previous to the erection of their church edifice they worshipped in the Diamond street school-house. Of the first organization of the society or of its early strength we have no account save that among its supporters are found the names of several of the most prominent citizens of that day.

The church was consecrated by Bishop Moore in October, 1803, but the first service in it was upon Christmas day, in the year previous, and at the same time the first renting of the pews took place, amounting to nearly three hundred dollars. Upon the first visit of Bishop Moore to Hudson, before the completion of the building, the trustees of the Presbyterian church offered to the Episcopal society for the service of the Bishop, the use of their new edifice, then just completed. It was not accepted.

Rev. Bethel Judd was the first Rector settled, after Mr. Gardner, receiving a salary of three hundred dollars, officiating every other Sabbath. John Malcher was the first sexton, receiving for his services ten dollars a year, afterwards increased to sixteen.

In 1803 a charity school was established in connection with the church, numbering at one time forty scholars. In its behalf, a sermon was preached monthly by the rector, and a collection taken up for its support.

It is said that the first Sabbath-school in the State of New York (probably outside of the city of New York) was established by Christ church of Hudson, how early we do not know.

In 1811, their first organ was erected, at a cost of four hundred and fifty dollars. The old church was occupied until the month of October in the year 1857, when their new and beautiful edifice upon the corner of Union and East Court streets was consecrated by Bishop Potter.

After the Rev. Mr. Judd, its rectors have been Rev. Messrs. Prentice, Cooper, Croswell, Bedell, Stebbins, Andrews, Cairns, Pardee, Babbitt, Tuttle and Watson.

We have before spoken of Mr. Croswell as one of the editors of the Hudson Balance and Repository. After his entry upon the ministry his first sermon was preached in Christ church in this city. The occasion drew out a large attendance of his former political friends and acquaintances. Mr. Croswell solemnly addressed them, telling them, "they had seen how well he had served his political masters, and should bear witness how much more faithfully he should follow the new master upon whose service he had entered."

The present rector is Rev. George F. Seymour. The society numbers one hundred and ninety-one communicants and one hundred and forty-eight families.

#### BAPTIST.

In the year 1810, on the 4th day of August, a number of individuals of the Baptist persuasion met at the house of H. P. Skinner for the purpose of



forming themselves into a Baptist society, under the direction of Elder Daniel Steers, a Missionary from New York. On the 28th day of August delegates from several churches in the vicinity met in the Court House to deliberate upon a constitution to be adopted by them, and after the examination of twelve individuals, as to their qualifications for membership, organized them as the First Baptist church of the City of Hudson. Their first Pastor was Rev. Harvey Jenks. For a short time they worshipped in private houses, and in the year 1811, leased the school-house, owned by Thomas Power, in Union street near Second, at a rent of fifty cents per week, as a regular place of worship. Increasing in numbers, they occupied the Mayor's Court room, in the Court House, and in 1818 on the 7th day of June, entered and dedicated the church which they have recently vacated. It was described as "new, neat and commodious." The society was then under the pastoral care of Rev. Avery Briggs, who preached the dedicatory sermon, from Exodus 39th chapter, 30th verse, to a numerous audience. The cost of the building or room was fifteen hundred dollars. The society at this period numbered one hundred members. Mr. Briggs was succeeded by Rev. Howard Malcom, of Philadelphia, who remained with them many years, an able and successful preacher. Their present church edifice was dedicated in the month of October, 1861. The society is now under the pastoral charge of Rev. G. W. Folwell and has a membership of one hundred and fifty-nine. The number of families connected with it is about one hundred.

Its pastors since Mr. Briggs, have been Rev. Messrs. James G. Ogilvie, Howard Malcom, Ebenezer Loomis, William Richards, Israel Robords, Moses Field, John W. Gibbs. E. D. Towner, T. G. Freeman, Leroy Church, G. W. Hervey, Wm. B. Smith, William C. Ulyat, G. W. Folwell.

#### UNIVERSALIST.

The Universalist society was organized in the year 1817. In the winter of the previous year, Capt. John Hathaway, who was one of the founders of the Presbyterian church in this city, requested Abner Kneeland, a Universalist minister of considerable reputation, to visit Hudson and preach. Capt. Hathaway personally invited a large number of families and individuals to hear him at the Court House, made all necessary arrangements for the meeting, bore all the expenses, and secured for Mr. Kneeland a large audience. The result of the meeting was the immediate organization of a society, and the taking of steps to build a place for worship. Capt. Hathaway gave to them a lot of land and contributed liberally to the erection of the building, which was completed

and occupied in the same year, 1817, being the building occupied by the society at the present time. Until its completion they continued to worship in the City Hall. The records of the society being very incomplete, we have been able to gather few particulars concerning its early strength, but it immediately drew to its support a large number of influential citizens and maintained a leading position.

The first minister regularly employed was Rev. Joshua Flagg, at a salary of six hundred dollars. Rev. Messrs. Pickering, Carrique, King, Smith, Whitcomb, Whittaker, Bunker, Ackley,<sup>†</sup> Lefevre, Collins, Browne, Borden, have since Mr. Flagg, been its ministers. Rev. A. R. Abbott, their present minister, was settled in 1860. The present number of communicants in the church is forty-eight, of families in the parish between eighty and ninety.

#### REFORMED DUTCH.

Believing that there existed room and necessity for another church organization in this city, a few individuals then connected with the Presbyterian church, in the Summer of 1835, met at the office of Joseph D. Monell for consultation. The meeting consisted of Joseph D. Monell, John Gaul, Killian Miller, Stephen W. Miller, A. V. V. Elting, Wm. E. Heermance and James E. Delamater. Desirous that the new organization should be of the Reformed Dutch order, they with other citizens made application to the Classis of Rensselaer, and on the 20th day of September, 1835, a society was organized, by a committee consisting of Rev. Messrs. Andrew N. Kittle, Peter S. Wynkoop and Richard Sluyter, as the First Reformed Protestant Dutch church of Hudson. A sermon was preached on the occasion by Rev. Peter S. Wynkoop.

Their first services were held in the old Court House, and the first sermon was preached by Rev. John B. Hardenburgh, D. D., then of Rhinebeck, now of N. Y. City. The first consistory ordained consisted of the following persons :

ELDERS.—John Watrous, A. V. V. Elting, Jonathan Stow, Thos. F. Mesick.  
DEACONS.—Robt. D. Van Deusen, Jacob C. Everts, Jacob Van Deusen.

The first pastor, Rev. George H. Fisher, was called from the First Reformed Dutch church of Fishkill, and installed October 20th, 1835.

A sermon was preached by Rev. Christopher Hunt, from John ii. 17 : "The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up." The form was read, and charge to the pastor delivered by Rev. Andrew N. Kittle. The charge to the congregation was delivered by the Rev. Richard Sluyter.

Mr. Fisher was dismissed; to become pastor of the Broome street church, in New York, December 28, 1841.

After the sale of the Court House, the congregation met on several Sabbaths, in the Baptist church. St. John's Hall was then occupied, until the completion of the church edifice, which was built in the year 1836, under the direction of a building committee, composed of Stephen W. Miller, Joseph D. Monell, James E. Delemater, William E. Heermance, Abraham V. V. Elting. It was dedicated December 18, 1836, when a sermon was preached by Rev. John H. Van Wagenen, pastor of the church at Linlithgow, from John x. 22 : "And it was at Jerusalem, the feast of the dedication, and it was winter."

The Lord's Supper was administered for the first time on the last Lord's day in January, A. D. 1836. At that time there were seventeen communicants, and at the first renting of pews, the society numbered about fifty families.

The second pastor, Rev. John Gosman, D. D., was called from the Reformed Dutch churches of Coeymans and New Baltimore, and installed May 15th, 1842. The installation services were performed by Rev. Andrew N. Kittle.

Dr. Gosman was, at his own request, which the state of his health compelled him to make, released from the pastoral charge, April 20th, 1852.

The third and present pastor, Rev. David D. Demarest, D. D., was called from the Second Reformed Dutch church of New Brunswick, N. J., and installed August 1st, 1852.

A sermon was preached by Rev. John G. Johnson, from Gal. vi. 14 : "But God forbid that I should glory," &c. The form was read by Rev. Ira C. Boice. The charge to the pastor was delivered by Rev. Cornelius E. Crispell. The charge to the congregation was delivered by Rev. Jacob N. Voorhis.

The present number of members is two hundred, number of families about one hundred and sixty.

#### CATHOLIC.

St. Mary's Church, Catholic, was established as a mission about twenty years ago, under the charge of a pastor at first from Saugerties, afterwards from Albany, who held occasional services here, occupying the lower part of St. John's Hall. The congregation growing rapidly, a church was erected in 1848, at a cost of about ten thousand dollars, including additions subsequently made to it. It was consecrated by Bishop McCloskey, was then under the charge of Father Howard, and numbered about one hundred communicants. Its pre-



## Elisha Williams before a Jury.

Mr. Henry B. Stanton, in his proposed "Historical Sketch of the Bench and Bar of New York," in a chapter on the jury lawyers of early times, thus speaks of Elisha Williams, formerly of this city, and illustrates his forensic power and dramatic skill by an anecdote:

Mr. Williams, he says, was distinguished as an advocate as early as the year 1800. For a quarter of a century thereafter he had few peers in this State in the trial of causes *at nisi prius*. Though this was the period when Hamilton, Emmet, Burr, Oakley, Wells, Van Vochten, Griffin, Sterra and Ogden won their laurels at the bar, it may be asserted that the ability of Mr. Williams to sway justice by a style of eloquence singularly captivating and dramatic, has been rarely equalled in New York.

The oratory of Mr. Williams was not classical, nor modelled after the rules of Blair, but was extravagant and of the thunder-clap order, literally shaking the court room with its reverberations, while his reasoning though lucid and vigorous, was leveled to the mental training of the twelve men before him, rather than constructed on the higher and drier plane of schoolmen like Whately. Williams did not, as it was said of Rufus Choate, "drive a substantive an six," but he used many words, and was less fastidious in their selection than the eminent Boston advocate, to whom he was certainly inferior as a rhetorician, though excelling him in dramatic power. When in full leather, and on the summits of a great case, Williams would venture upon the boldest flights of the imagination, seemingly confident that he would be sustained by an unfaltering wing, however high he soared.

It is only possible to give an idea of such an orator by citing examples. The following incident will show, faintly it may be, the power of Williams in working into a drama the common incidents of a jury trial:

He was engaged for the plaintiff in a trial at Hudson involving the title to a large tract of land. Daniel Cady was his junior, and we think Abraham Van Vechten and Martin Van Buren led on the other side. The plaintiff's case turned upon maintaining the validity of a certain line, run by two surveyors previous to the revolutionary war, and marked by "blazed trees" through a then uninhabited wilderness. One of these surveyors was subsequently an officer in the revolutionary army, and the other had held responsible trusts in the county of Columbia. At the time of the trial, both had been dead more than twenty years.

The Court House at Hudson was crowded day after day, with anxious spectators, assembled to witness a contest that might unsettle the title to half the farms in the county. Williams was making the closing address to the jury. The counsel for the defence, in their elaborate arguments, had borne down upon the two surveyors with great severity, attacking their professional skill and their integrity, arraigning them as ignoramuses, and falsifiers of sacred landmarks. The jury were seated in a corner of the court room quite remote from the door; and during the speech of Williams the press around the door and in that part of the hall was suffocating, the throng extending down the stairway, and even into the street.

In vindicating the character of the two surveyors Williams gave a graphic sketch of their long and perilous journeys through the trackless forest carrying their unerring compass and chain in one hand, and their faithful muskets in the other to protect themselves against prowling savages and beasts of prey. He dwelt in glowing language upon their services to the patriot cause in the struggle for national independence, the high trusts they had discharged while living, and the honored graves wherein they had so long reposed. He described in picturesque dashes the dress and venerable aspect of these men of a past age as they had appeared to some of the old witnesses in the case, who saw them just before they died; and, in a voice which was peculiarly thrilling when warmed with emotion, he expressed the wish that these vilified patriots could rise from the dust, appear in the hall, and before this tribunal confront their accusers.

The court, jury, and auditors were now enwrapped with Williams's eloquence, when, at the close of a highly wrought period in defence of the surveyors, he paused, seemed to gaze into vacancy, and lowering his tones to their mellowest cadence, and speaking half-absorbedly and with measured solemnity, said—the hall as still as the chamber of death—"Methinks I see these venerable men before me. Their aged forms, clad in the costume of their times, rise upon my vision. They come to vindicate their honorable fame!" Then, pausing again, and listening, he continued, "They come! I hear their footfall upon the stairs!" Then lifting himself to the full height of his commanding person, he turned suddenly towards the throng near the door, and waving his hand, and swelling his voice till the hall rang, cried, "Make way for them! Stand aside! Let them enter! They come!"

The effect of this perilous oratorical episode was electrical. The crowd near the door pressed back on each side, opening a passage for the two dead surveyors; the howldered judge dropped his pen; the jury and spectators in that part of the hall rose from their seats, and all gazed towards the door to witness the entrance of two men who had been in their graves a quarter of a century.

"Ah," said the venerable counsellor, who related the incident to the writer thirty years after it occurred, "it was a hazardous experiment, but the verdict of the jury established the validity of the line."

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sent pastor is Father O'Sullivan, and it numbers about one thousand communicants, and two hundred families, with an income of fifteen hundred dollars from pew rents. In connection with the church, a free day school is sustained, numbering two hundred and forty-seven scholars, with an average attendance of two hundred.

#### AFRICAN.

There are at present two African churches in existence, which have organized, dis-organized, and re-organized so often, as to make it impossible to fix their beginning. They occupy, one the old Episcopal church, the other the old chapel connected with it, and together embrace nearly the entire colored population of the city, a very few being connected with the other churches. They are rival organizations, and both look for their support to the white population, through the medium of fairs and strawberry festivals.

#### THE PROFESSIONS.

Among her early native born citizens there have been many to whom Hudson may point with pride, who have risen to distinction, some in professional life, others in mercantile pursuits, unaided by the advantages of either wealth or power. Among her residents, also, there have been many, alike distinguished for political eminence and professional ability. To more than mention them would be to open a field which we dare not enter.

Gen. William J. Worth, Lieut. William H. Allen, Martin Van Buren, Elisha Williams, William W. Van Ness, John C. Spencer, Ambrose L. Jordan, Ambrose Spencer, Amasa J. Parker, Daniel B. Tallmadge, John W. Edmonds, Thomas P. Grosvenor, Joseph D. Monell, Killian Miller, Elisha Jenkins, Thos. W. Olcott, make up a list, the equal of which, without mentioning others little less prominent in a public point of view, few places can furnish. From those who have at different periods been connected with the legal profession in this city, ten have occupied the bench of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, William W. Van Ness, Ambrose Spencer, Daniel B. Tallmadge, John W. Edmonds, Amasa J. Parker, Edward P. Cowles, Henry Hogeboom, Josiah Sutherland, Theodore Miller and Claudius L. Monell.

Among the early physicians of the place were several eminent for their skill and ability. Doctors Hamilton, Wheaton, Tallman, Malcolm and White



are particularly mentioned. All of them were here previous to the beginning of the present century.

Dr. Wheaton was the earliest, and is spoken of as a careful, judicious physician. His first residence was near the foot of Warren street, upon the Southernly side, but he afterwards built the large brick dwelling, in Union street, recently occupied by Mr. Israel Platt. In the year 1791, he entered into partnership with Dr. Younglove, celebrated for his successful treatment of the small pox.

Dr. Hamilton is described as "an original in mind and manner as well as practice, whose three great remedies were calomel, bark and brandy. He was nevertheless a well educated, strong-minded man ; but fond of hearing himself talk, careless of time, and often rendered himself disagreeable by his long visits and still longer stories." His residence was in Diamond, between Second and First streets.

Dr. Tallman enjoyed a large practice and was called one of the finest looking men in the city : "large, portly, always well dressed and of the most polished and gentlemanly manners." When appointed to the office of Mayor, it was said his good looks secured his appointment. He was "in personal appearance, air and manner, the *beau ideal* of the medical faculty." His practice was larger than that of any other physician. His first residence was upon the North-west corner of Union and Second streets ; in later years he occupied the present residence of the Misses Peake.

Dr. Malcolm, it is said, was a "gentleman in the highest sense of the word, a man of education, talent and science, who literally starved in his profession."

Dr. White also enjoyed a large practice. In some branches of his profession he was superior, and has left behind him a reputation equal to that of any other physician in the State. We have before mentioned the Lunatic Asylum established by him, and for years so successfully conducted.

Doctors are proverbial for disagreeing. We have an illustration of this truth in the practice of two of the most eminent of these old physicians of Hudson. A son of Cotton Gelston returned sick from sea ; one of them pronounced his disease scurvy and treated him accordingly. Not improving, he placed himself under the care of another, who called his difficulty incipient dropsy. A little feeling grew out of the affair, ending in a dispute, which found its way into print, and finally ended in a six months' controversy of the bitterest character, carried on through the columns of the Bee, in which such epithets as "country booby," "smutty doctor," &c., were freely used. The doctors exhausted themselves, and the patient died without a settlement of the question.

The controversy to the parties doubtless seemed important, but at this distant day appears trivial and amusing.

It was early said that Hudson was "noted for the eminence of its physicians." From the days of the old physicians mentioned, the medical faculty of the city has always embraced many educated, skillful, gentlemanly physicians. Of their present number, one, (Dr. R. G. Frary,) who has long been eminent for his ability, laboring under the weight of years, must soon cease from his active duties, missed by a large circle to whom his presence has brought comfort and healing.

Speaking of the ministers of Hudson, prior to 1800, the author of "Random Recollections" says :

"Hudson, though she has figured greatly on the bar and on the bench, even in the Senate and the Executive chair ; though she has added to the laurels of the Army and Navy, and performed wonders in the political world, yet she has contributed nothing to the splendor and but little to the comfort of the church."

Little can be said of them for the simple reason that there were few at that early period to speak of. In the early days of the city, as we have before remarked, the Friends overshadowed every other denomination, greatly exceeding all combined, in number. Of their ministers, Thomas Comstock and Hannah Barnard, we have spoken.

Of Rev. Ezra Sampson and Reuben Sears, Presbyterian ministers, the same author thus speaks : of the former, that he was "distinguished for classical and biblical learning. He was indeed an excellent writer, a man of sound practical sense and great purity of mind." Of the latter, that he was "a man of moderate talents, without art, without force, and without even an occasional gleam of eloquence ; but honest, warm hearted, and of the most exemplary piety. His sermons were exceedingly dull, but not exceedingly tedious, for they had one redeeming admirable quality, they were short. In this they were in excellent keeping with his compensation and the patience of his hearers. Four hundred dollars was the amount of one, and fifteen minutes the extent of the other."

Of the Episcopal church he says, "for many years it was without any regular or established minister." The first allusion we find to any is to the Rev. Mr. Judd in 1803, who is spoken of as a "man of education and a faithful minister."

Samuel Wigton seems to have been the only minister of the Methodist church, up to the period mentioned. His strength lay in his voice, and his pulpit efforts were mostly confined to singing.

We think we do not err in saying, that since the year 1800, the pulpits of no city of the same population as Hudson, have been filled by a higher order of talent or men of greater purity of character, than those of Hudson.

#### ODDITIES.

We turn to a different class of personages, a few of whom are found in every community, and are too prominent to be omitted from any picture drawn of it; a mixture of "vagrant, loafer and lunatic." We shall call them *oddities*.

We cannot do better, and we take the liberty of drawing from the pages of "Random Recollections" descriptions of several of that species, belonging to Hudson in early times.

There flourished in the city about the same period three Johns, the first "a crazy, wild, fire-eyed fellow known by the name of old John Willod, whose wife, it was said, had turned his brain, and whose relations, it was believed, had picked his pockets. He was a sort of erratic meteor in the moving world; sometimes mild and sometimes mischievous. He sung psalms and catches upon the hills, threw up his arms into the air, and cut such terrific capers as frightened the boys out of their wits, and even attracted the attention of the cattle in the field. At the sound of his voice in the streets, the housemaids ran in and hasped their doors, while the youngerlings dropt their marbles and fled like quicksilver. He seemed to take especial pleasure in frightening the smaller boys whenever he came across them either in the town or fields."

The second was familiarly known as "old Brooks." "Brooks belonged to the antiquities of the old world. He certainly had all the appearances of an antediluvian. Yet I never could learn that his history had been traced further back than to the period of the *Van Troomps* of the Netherlands. He came, it was said, from Amsterdam, in or about the year 1652, and was supposed to be at the time somewhere in the vicinity of one hundred years of age! But I do not vouch for the accuracy of these traditions. I first saw him in 1788, and after the lapse of eighteen or twenty years, he still appeared in all respects unchanged. His habits were unaltered, his faculties unabated, and the light of his eye undimmed. Time, in that interval at least, seemed to have made no impression upon him. There was, indeed, no place left for a new twist or a new wrinkle. As for the ordinary signs of age, he had long since ran through the catalogue, and exhausted their number. His head, his hands, and his voice had been shaking, as if with the palsy, for half a century, and were shaking still. His little twinkling eye and the tip of his nose, were all that



could be seen of his face. His language was a dialect compounded of three other dialects—high dutch, low dutch, and broken English, and to those unused to it, utterly unintelligible. His outside garment, which was always the same, winter and summer, was composed of as many colors as Joseph's coat. The original texture had long since been lost and covered under a cloud of patches. His shoes were fastened to his feet by thongs and fibres of bark. He wore a little cocked hat, banded and braided with divers colored strings, which might, from its form and fashion, have been worn by De Ruyter himself. His pipe, black with the smoke of a thousand years; still answered the ends for which it was created, and gave to his figure in a frosty morning an additional sign of vitality.

He lived about three miles from the city, to which he traveled on foot, twice or three times a week, the year round. He carried a willow basket strapped upon his back, filled with roots and herbs, mostly of a medicinal character. These simples he gathered with his own hands, and it was by the sale of these he obtained his livelihood. Old and poor as he was, and lone and miserable as he seemed, yet he was never known to beg or to complain. On the contrary, he seemed to enjoy good health, was always cheerful and apparently contented."

Hudson in later days furnished an almost exact counterpart, in appearance, at least, to old Brooks, in the person of "Bill Morris, the root digger," as he was generally called. No more accurate description of his "external" man could be written of Morris, than that furnished of Brooks. His knowledge of roots and herbs was extensive and he frequently made it his boast that no root grew within ten miles of Hudson which he did not know. Morris was a man of depraved habits, but we think he will be remembered as a "useful institution."

The third John was "Copper John." "Copper John, though resembling Brooks in some things, was very unlike him in others. He had no knowledge of the medical qualities of roots and herbs. He had no taste for the culling of simples, and no disposition to traffic in any thing. He took no thought for the morrow, either as to what he should eat or what he should drink; it was sufficient for him to know that he could find his way into a kitchen in the day time, and into a barn at night. But John was in no sense a responsible person. His intellectual pitcher was cracked, and the vessel was therefore unfit for use. Yet he possessed great bodily strength, and was certainly capable of some things if not others. He could split wood and fetch water; he could beg, too, but not like a beggar; he could work, but not like a man; he was in size a giant, but huge and strong as he was, he nevertheless submitted to any show

of authority, and put up with any kind of treatment ; hence, he was always in the hands of the boys, who played him an endless variety of tricks ; they did him some good and much evil ; they forced him to work, and learned him to drink, though he had no great taste for either. He had a natural antipathy to cats, which the boys soon found out, and John, to his horror, every now and then, found one attached by a cord to the tail of his coat. His first impression on these occasions, was to run and roar,—the cat had no choice but to follow his example ; and such a roaring on the one side, and such a caterwauling on the other, was never heard before in any civilized town ! The boys were in fact John's best friends and worst enemies. They were liberal in their gifts, (his whole wardrobe indeed came from them,) but they made him pay for their liberality in various and most annoying ways. They contrived, without his perceiving it, to tar the inside of his hat ; they even put powder in his pipe, and ipecac and ginger in his gin ; all of which he bore like a philosopher, — nay, the medicated gin he swallowed without making a wry face.

But that which most particularly distinguished John from all other loafers, cracked or uncracked, was his passion for coppers ; and as he was never known to part with one, it was believed that he hid them in holes, or buried them in the ground. He would take no other coin, not even as a gift, and hence his name of Copper John. He loitered about the town and its vicinity for some ten or fifteen years, without any occupation, home or common resting place ; and yet, was never seen in a suffering condition. He was, seemingly, proof against all diseases, winds and weathers. Though he readily comprehended whatever was said to him, yet his mind was little better than a *tabula rasa*.

At length, however, John disappeared ; and, as he came, no one knew whence, so he went, no one knew whither ; and but for this incidental notice, the knowledge of his existence on earth, might have been lost forever !

The writer can bear personal testimony to the accuracy of the foregoing sketch. In his earliest recollection "Copper John" was still the butt of all the jokes of the older and the terror of the younger boys, and many a coin he has laid in the old man's palm. In future days should a vein of copper ever be found in this vicinity, it may be set down as old Copper John's bank. It would be safe to say that a quarter of the present adult population of Hudson were threatened in early life with being passed bodily over to old John for bad behavior. It can never be known how many "honorable citizens" of to-day, are such from their fear of becoming the property of the old man when young. "I'll give you to Copper John," was the standing menace of provoked mothers to bring back their rebellious juveniles to good conduct.

Cotemporary with Copper John was another, always held up as a terror to youthful evil doers, an old half-breed, called "Indian Harry." Tradition said that this individual had for many years lodged in the barns in the vicinity, from which at midnight he made excursions to the neighboring gardens for his subsistence, *milking cows in a clam-shell*, and now and then as a relish "*eating up*" *some very naughty little one*. This might or might not have all been true of him, but it is certain that the appearance of his long locks in the distance, was always seen to put an end to all sport, and send every juvenile "homeward bound" at a rapid rate of speed.

Three others there were, a Frenchman, Belgian and Hessian, who had all served under Burgoyne. The Frenchman, Monsieur Lescure, we have before mentioned.

"The Belgian commenced his career in Hudson, (and ended as he began), by peddling *clams* and *white sand*, which he carried about from door to door, in an old ricketty one horse wagon, taking his pay in *ashes*! His appearance in the streets was a subject worthy of the study of Teniers, or even of Rubens himself. His horse was as blind as a beetle, and every bone in his body might have been counted as easy as the spokes in the wheel of the wagon to which he was attached. As for the old Belgian himself, he was, if possible, more of a wreck of bones than his horse; almost as blind and twice as much of a scarecrow. His frame seemed to be a mere complication of angles. There was nothing about him curved or round, save his head. His dress, if dress it might be called, was composed of sundry specimens of ancient costume, seemingly selected by the hand of taste to set him off to advantage. His coat, which had probably been in more wars than one, came down to his very heels—at least one tail of it: the *other*, it was said, had been left on the Plains of Abraham. A part of one sleeve, too, was missing. *That* was believed to have been lost at Saratoga. The *color* had been originally blue, but had grown grey, partly through age, and partly through the mystifying influence of sand and *ashes*. Its buttons had shared the fate of the tail and sleeve; they had been *detached* and left behind in the wars. His nether garment stopped short at the knees, and all below that point was in a state of nature. To crown all, his hat was crownless—that is to say, entirely open at the top. It was, moreover, minus two-thirds of the brim. Such a team, man, horse and wagon, no human eye ever beheld before, or will ever behold again!"

"Human eyes" in Hudson, since this subject passed away, have seen two, very nearly answering the above description. One is still living, and to his calling as "ashman" has added that of collector of bones. The other was one



who for years provided with clams the lovers of that delicacy ; who passed, with his establishment, long since from these streets, but whose song is fresh in the recollection of many :

He—————yers  
 Yer fine clams ter be sold.  
 Co————me a————ll  
 Ye gentlemen and ladies,  
 For you 've all got money,  
 And I haint got none.  
 Come and buy my fine clams  
 And let me go home.  
 He—————yers  
 Yer fine clams ter be sold.

Sung in a clear musical voice, it never failed to waken numerous echoes, or bring him numerous customers. John Little had a black skin, but he deserves to go on record with the Belgian.

"The Hessian was a surly dog, and though cowardly, kept the boys at bay ; few of them were hardy enough, when they saw him passing, to set up their usual shout of 'There goes one of Burgoyne's men !' And yet a sly egg from an unseen hand occasionally overtook him in turning a corner, and left a mark sufficiently evident to more than one of the senses."

Jemmy Frazer has appeared in these sketches before as an early "official" of Hudson. He was familiarly known by the name of Jemmy—though on the list of the civil dignitaries of the town, he was written down James Frazer—for Jemmy had found favor in the eyes of the Common Council, and had received the high and lucrative appointment of town crier. But Jemmy loved a glass of grog, and was happier, it is said, with *two* than with one. Be this as it may, he was popular in the lower wards, and his office gave him influence at the polls. Hence he was looked up to, as one dog does to another who wears a collar. His evening levees were generally held in and about the market-place, and were numerously attended by the boys, who encored his speeches and applauded his gyrations, sometimes by shouts, and sometimes by a volley of eggs, which Jemmy too often discovered were none of the sweetest. Of the style in which he performed his official duties, the following may be taken as a specimen :

Mr. Nixon, Cashier of the Bank of Columbia, in going late in the evening from the office to his house, lost the key of the Bank ; but it was near midnight before he missed it. Not wishing to create an alarm by a search at that late hour, he concluded to say nothing about it till morning ; but the search in the morning proved unsuccessful, and as the last resort, Jemmy was sent for.

The particulars were related and Jemmy was directed to cry the lost key through the streets, with a reward of two dollars to the finder, but was specially charged to let no one know that it was *the key of the Bank*. So, a little after sunrise, Jemmy commenced his round, bell in hand—Cling-ding! cling-ding! Hare ya! hare ya! But early as it was, Jemmy had been up long enough to get pretty well corned, and as the boys were collecting and shouting at his heels, his memory became somewhat confused, and the several particulars of time and place, with his instructions what to say and what *not to say*, got somehow or other all jumbled together;—But, ringing his bell stoutly, as if to clear up his ideas, he began again, ‘Hare ya! hare ya! Lost between Jamy Nixon’s and twelve o’clock at night a large kay!’ Here the boys interrupted him with—‘What sort of a key was it?’ ‘Go to the deil!’ cried Jemmy, turning short upon them, ‘and I tell ye that, *ye’ll be after getting into the Bonk with it!*’ For this very natural and judicious answer, Jemmy lost his commission. <sup>1</sup>

“Old Miner,” as he was called, “city crier” of Hudson at a later period, in two particulars, his love of “*the beverage*” and his popularity with the boys, was not unlike Jemmy Frazer. The ring of his bell upon the corners never failed to call around him a crowd of juveniles, who came with the double purpose of listening to his humor and playing some joke upon him, to which he always made a show of resentment, so far as to make a short pursuit after his tormentors; but it was *only* show, for the old man was really kind-hearted and always merry, although he lived by *crying*.

#### PROSPERITY OF THE CITY.

In a work recently published, entitled “Men and Times of the Revolution, including a journey of travels in Europe and America from 1777 to 1842,” the writer thus speaks of Hudson:

“In 1788, I visited the new city of Hudson, then first starting into being through the energy and enterprise of New England emigrants, and exhibiting a progress at that time *almost without a parallel in American history*. It had emerged from a Dutch farm into the position of a commercial city, with considerable population, warehouses, wharves and docks, ropewalks, shipping and the din of industry. All these remarkable results had been accomplished in the brief term of four years. The streets were broad and spacious.”

At this day, when towns and cities not unfrequently double their population in a single year, the figures which we give below, do not seem to us to justify a statement like the above. Yet of the same character, is every

allusion we have found to the early prosperity and enterprise of Hudson ; uniformly mentioned and regarded for a time, as the most flourishing place in the State.

From a table published by the State in 1845, we find the population in 1790 to have been 2,584, of which we estimate about two thousand to have been within the compact portion of the place. In 1800, it was 3,664. We have previously stated it at that time as a little over 4000, having taken the figures from an early Gazetteer of the State. It did not exceed 4000 until 1810 when it was 4,048. In 1814, 4,725 ; 1820, 5,310 ; 1825, 5,004.

We have before given 1819 as the year when the prosperity of the city began to decline. A period of five years and the only period in the history of the city, in which there was a loss, shows then a decrease of population. In 1830, it had again increased to 5,392. At this time the whale fisheries had been revived and were successfully carried on. In 1840, the population numbered 5,672, after losing during the previous ten years about 1,800 taken off by the formation of the towns of Greenport and Stockport. In 1845, the whaling business had again been abandoned and the population was 5,677. In 1850, 6,286 ; 1855, 6,720 ; 1860, 7,265 ; showing for the last ten years not a large but steady increase. With the population of the towns taken from it since 1830, it would now number very nearly 11,000. Their formation should be borne in mind in making comparison of the present with the earlier condition of the city.

Another fact to be remembered is that Hudson possesses little territory, save that contained within its compact limits. Its suburbs lie within the limits of the town of Greenport and embrace a population who in every way contribute to its support and prosperity as fully as its own citizens.

From one of the city papers, in 1830, we take the following article relative to the public buildings of the city at that time :

"It is often and very sneeringly remarked, 'Hudson will never recover from the slumber into which it has fallen. The summer-like days of her commercial prosperity have passed, and public spirit and public pride are buried, with no prospect of resurrection.'

We do not mean, at the present time, to cross a lance with those adventurous knight errants who make it a point, on all occasions, to assail our ancient city ; this we may do, when our leisure will permit us to enter the lists and silence the calumnies of all gainsayers. Our object now is, while our citizens are looking about them for objects of improvement, and are not only able, but willing to expend their means in the public good, humbly to suggest a channel where their efforts might be most usefully directed. We mean, the *improvement of our public buildings*. With the exceptions of the Lunatic Asylum and the Bank, there is not a single edifice among them which is honorable to the city. This is a sweeping remark, but no one doubts or denies its truth. Let us take



for instance the Court House, occupying a prominent position in Warren street, thronged, during the terms of Court, by the inhabitants of this and adjacent counties, an object of intense curiosity to the traveler who has heard that there a Van Ness, a Spencer, a Van Buren, a Grosvenor, and last, but not least of the shining group, a Williams, have earned their immortality; and while we realize what such a building should be, we blush when we see what it is. A large, unsymmetrical, decaying pile, from the exterior surface of which the paint has been obliterated long since, the ceilings of which are cracking, and the timbers trembling like the limbs of an ague patient, or the shrunk bones of Ezekiel's valley. Will the Board of Supervisors permit such a structure to stand? If something is not done speedily, the trouble of demolishing it will be saved; it will come down of its own accord; the very swallows whose countless tribes have tenanted its belfry for years, are forsaking it. 'Twill make a monstrous gap in the legal profession, should it fall in term time. Why may not that piece of ordnance, vulgarly y'cleped a nine pounder, which stands before the market, with its greedy mouth directed to these Halls of Justice, be employed with effect? We must likewise enter our remonstrance against the location of a gaol in front of our principal thoroughfare, and suggest a speedy removal. Our churches are also in a mi-erable condition. Every strong wind shakes their steeples, and enters within door most unceremoniously. There is nothing of architectural finish, or even comfort about them. The same remarks may apply to our Academies. Fellow citizens, shall these things be? It has been said that "the public buildings of a city are its ornament or disgrace." Let us weigh well the truth of this remark, and be *up and doing*."

At a later period, 1847, the author of "Random Recollections of Hudson," speaks of its population having greatly diminished. "It was indeed," he says, "for many years one of the most beautiful and flourishing towns on the noble river whose name it bears. The days of its prosperity have long since passed away. Its wealth has diminished, its business sources have dried up and almost every vestige of its former glory has disappeared. There are now no shipping at its docks and no ships building. There is no song of the anvil to be heard, no sound of the axe or hammer. There is no bustle of seamen along its wharves, no song of the rope-maker upon its hills, no throng of wagons from the interior, no crowds of men in its streets. The ship-yards are overgrown with grass, the wharves have mouldered away, the rope-walk is deserted, the warehouses are empty and the once busy crowds have long since disappeared. It is only on the arrival or departure of a steamboat that any decided signs of life are visible. The silent half-depopulated town seems to communicate a melancholy air to everything around it."

In this dark picture, he throws just one streak of light. He adds: "Notwithstanding this total absence of life and spirit, there is no appearance of wretchedness or want in any part of the city. There is no exhibition of vice, no spectacle of misery in any quarter. On the contrary, there is a general appearance of neatness, frugality and order. But for the want of business no-

thing can compensate, for the tedium of eternal dullness nothing can atone. The spirit of enterprise is indeed dead." The cause he finds in the unwillingness of its citizens who have the means, "to risk one farthing for the general good, having neither the public spirit nor energy of character to employ those means to advantage." We are not willing to admit the correctness of this overdrawn picture of the desolation of Hudson, and we particularly notice it as it has helped to give to Hudson the reputation it has so long enjoyed as a "*dead town*," a "*finished city*."

While we do not claim for it that life and growth which have marked many other places, we are safe in saying, that there has been no time when it has either been "half-depopulated," or its former glory had entirely departed. In 1830 its population was 5,392. Greenport and Stockport (in part) were then taken from it, and we still find instead of being greatly diminished it had a population increased to 6,286, in 1850 ; showing most satisfactorily that the statement in "Recollections" is erroneous. In fairness, it should also have been stated that Hudson was just then suffering, not so much from lack of enterprise, as from unsuccessful enterprise. The capital of its citizens, invested in the Hudson & Berkshire Rail Road, the whale fishery, the erection of the Hudson House and other enterprises, had nearly all been sacrificed, and two destructive fires had just brought additional loss to many of them, and thus under an accumulation of misfortunes every business interest had become depressed. But that period has passed, and we are glad to know that the days of its prosperity have in a measure returned, notwithstanding we still hear it persistently asserted abroad that "the place is about used up."

Not unfrequently, too, we hear it remarked by visitors, that they "cannot see that Hudson has changed in the least ; everything is just as it was thirty years ago." This seems passing strange to us, in view of the fact, that in that period almost everything about it has changed. Let us walk through it, and see if we do not discover, not only evidences of change but of prosperity.

We take our stand upon Parade Hill. Looking off, the same unequalled view of river and mountains, which nothing human ever can change, still meets us ; but around us all is different. The hill itself, instead of a naked rock, has been transformed into a pleasant and shaded resort, where the lover of the beautiful or the seeker after pleasure or health may comfortably linger in their search. From its base, instead of the gentle dashing of the waves, we hear the heavy rumbling of trains, and the shrill whistle, whose echo comes back thrice repeated by the opposite hills. Across the river's breast, instead of the horseboat, the butt of so many jokes, the ruin of so much horseflesh and the

unconscious cause, we fear, of so many "hard words," flits like a bird, one of the neatest and swiftest steam ferry boats upon the river. For this change, made in 1858, we are indebted to the enterprise of Messrs. Morton & Edmonds, of Athens. Should it be the latter part of the day, we shall see entering her wharf, returning from her daily trip to Albany, a fleet, beautiful little steamer, the "City of Hudson," owned by Messrs. Power, Martin & Co., with groups of passengers upon her pleasant decks. At the same hour we shall see a splendid steamer, either the Oregon, owned by Messrs. Haviland, Clark & Co., or the Connecticut, by Messrs. Power, Bogardus & Co., boats in no particular second to any upon this or any other river, leaving for New York, and with a weight of freight and passengers which would call for the combined capacity of all the sloops of olden Hudson. Who shall say that in facilities for travel and business Hudson is not enjoying the advantages of great change?

Looking from the Southerly end of the hill, we see little beside the large store houses, to remind us of the ancient order of things in that portion of the city. Heavy fires, with the construction of the Hudson River Rail Road, have produced an entirely changed appearance. Instead, however, of "decayed wharves, ship-yards overgrown with grass," and "empty store-houses," we see a net-work of railroad tracks, trains constantly passing, depots, foundries, furnaces, etc., from which come sounds quite as indicative of life as the "song of the rope-maker," or the "ring of the hammer." In the distance are the extensive works of the Hudson Iron Company, organised in 1849, with a capital of \$350,000—nearer to us are those of the Columbia County Iron Company, organised in 1857, with a capital of \$75,000, now carried on by Messrs. J. A. Griswold & Company,—the depot of the Hudson & Boston Railroad Company, organised upon the failure of the Hudson & West Stockbridge Rail Road Company, and now in successful operation—the extensive stove foundry of Messrs. Hunt & Miller—the depots of the Hudson River Rail Road Company—the works of the Hudson Gas Company—the freighting establishments of Messrs. Haviland, Clark & Co., Power, Martin & Co., Power, Bogardus & Co., while upon the North side of the city stands the extensive brewery of Messrs. R. W. Evans & Co., and that of Messrs. Millard & Barnard—all giving employment to a large number of men, and furnishing good proof that this end of Hudson, although greatly changed in its business, is not entirely "dead."

Passing through Warren street, we find it difficult to point out a residence or place of business which has not been modernized, greatly improved, or wholly changed in external appearance. The same is true of Union, while the



beautiful residences on Allen street and vicinity, and at the head of the town, have all been built within a few years.

Turning to what is generally termed the business end of the city, we notice the extensive establishment of Mr. James Clark, for the manufacture of clothing— that of Messrs. Charles White & Co., for the manufacture of boots and shoes, the machine shop of C. H. Prentiss, the extensive furnace and adjoining works of Messrs. E. Gifford & Sons— all in ordinary times furnish employment to many individuals. We find many spacious stores erected and scarcely one remaining not greatly enlarged and improved, indicating, and all of them doing, in times of general prosperity, an amount of business which, if stated, would not be believed by those who assert that “there is little or nothing done in Hudson.”

Looking at our public buildings, we note still a greater change. The “shaky” houses of worship have all disappeared, and we see four new edifices erected within a few years, and two but a short time previous, so that every congregation now enjoys increased and comfortable church accommodations. The census of 1860 puts the valuation of the churches of Hudson at \$120,000 with accommodations for six thousand people. The old Court House, deemed so disgraceful thirty years since, has given place to a fine marble structure, and we have added a City Hall at the cost of \$27,000, capable of accommodating twelve hundred people, of which we justly have reason to be proud. We have in that period also erected a public house, an ornament to the city, and which, although for a while not meeting the expectation of its originators, is now in successful operation. We find the Press of the city all established with greatly enlarged and improved facilities for doing business; we see our streets well paved and well lighted with gas; we enjoy greatly increased water privileges; we have a Fire Department full and efficient, the pride of the city; and in every respect the equal of any other city; and in every particular the Hudson of to-day, instead of being the “same old,” is a very different and greatly improved place, from the Hudson of a quarter of a century ago.

Yet, in spite of all these evidences of a comfortable degree of prosperity and sure growth, although it may be slow, we find many constantly speaking of it as the “*same old place*,” “*no change*,” “*dead*” and “*finished*.” Much more than it is, Hudson indeed might be, but we claim for it, and especially from those who have gone from among us, the credit due it for just what it is: a healthy, pleasant, improved, living and growing place, neither dead, deserted, half-depouled, nor in the midst of melancholy surroundings.

We can never know how much of capital or wealth has been turned from Hudson by this false impression given of its condition; but we believe it is

rapidly being corrected, and it is gratifying to those interested in its welfare, to hear frequent expressions of pleasure and surprise at its thrifty and prosperous appearance from visitors who have come among us prepared to see nothing but decay and dilapidation.

In 1855 the number of dwellings was given at nine hundred and six : the real estate valued at about one and a half million of dollars. The census of 1860 shows the number of dwellings to be one thousand and fifty eight, and the real estate valued at about two million of dollars.

Born "within her walls," his ancestors numbered among its early settlers, attached by many and strong ties to Hudson, it would be pardonable, perhaps, in the writer, should he even claim more for his native city than would seem to others less interested, just. In presenting briefly what would be deemed of any place the evidences of its life and prosperity, this feeling has led him into no exaggeration. What is needed to make Hudson what it might be, and all its citizens would be glad to see it become, is as evident to him as others ; and while it would be idle to claim for it a position to which it is not entitled, we should, on the other hand, no longer suffer it to bear a reputation which facts and figures do not justify. We believe the first step toward a still better condition than now enjoyed, is for her citizens, whenever opportunity occurs, to correct this impression *and not either by silence encourage, or by depreciative remarks* strengthen it.

The acknowledgments of the writer are due to many who have aided him in the preparation of these sketches, but more particularly to Messrs. Oliver Wiswall, Robert A. Barnard and Henry P. Skinner. With the exception of Mr. Henry Harder, the recollection of Mr. Wiswall dates back to an earlier period than any other citizen now living. Mr. Harder, or "Doctor," as he is familiarly called, was a boy of about seven years of age, playing in the fields and woods, where now are busy streets, when the settlers of Hudson landed. He remembers their coming, but very little connected with it. At the time, he was living with his uncle, Justus Van Hoesen, of whom we have before spoken, whose dwelling was upon the site of the present residence of Mr. Daniel Limbrick, and whom he describes as a "good old man, and didn't like it if the boys didn't all come in to prayers," and is said to have shared with most of his neighbors their dislike of "the Yankees." In 1838, during the opening of Allen street, when the remains of Mr. Van Hoesen and family were removed from the old family ground in the orchard upon the hillside, Doct. Harder was the only relative left to follow them to their new burial place. His memory is not perfectly clear, but we are indebted to him for suggestions

and information. He has always been an industrious, respected citizen, is still active, but must soon pass away, and in his death the last link connecting the city of to-day with the Claverack Landing of 1783, will be broken.

Mr. Wiswall was born upon the island of Martha's Vinyard, where his father died, but came here as early as the year 1789, six years after the settlement of the city, the first residence of his mother and brothers being the house for many years occupied by the late Samuel Bryan. He was then nine years of age, and after a brief period spent at school, under the instruction of Dorrance Kirtland and Mrs. Wilson, or "Marm Wilson," as she was usually called, at the age of thirteen commenced his business life in the store of his uncle, Marshall Jenkins, then doing business in the building now occupied as a residence by Mr. Ebenezer H. Gifford. In 1801 he entered into business for himself, in partnership with Capt. Beriah Pease, who came here immediately after the Proprietors, and continued until that time to sail from Hudson in the merchant service. Their first place of business was the small frame building one door below the present residence of Hon. Henry Hogeboom, (the Bank of Hudson, originally,) that locality then being the "business centre." In 1804 they built the large brick building now the residence of Mrs. E. Hyatt, occupying it for many years as the residence of Capt. Pease, and as their place of business until 1819. The large brick residences opposite were erected and occupied by different members of the Jenkins family. In 1820 Mr. Wiswall entered into the freighting business, with others, under the firm of Wiswall, Smith and Jenkins, in which he continued until he retired from active business life, occupying the building upon Franklin Square known as the McArthur store, and the brick warehouse adjoining, and doing what he represents as an immense business. In 1830 he became the President of the Hudson River Bank, remaining in that position until the expiration of its charter.

Mr. Wiswall is now the only resident of Hudson who was in any way connected in business with the Proprietors and early settlers, and the oldest citizen living who came here after its settlement. A nephew of one of the Proprietors, connected with many others, and in constant intercourse with them all, he is familiar with everything relative to that period of the history of the city. Familiar, too, with all the early business interests of the city, active for many years in promoting them, early entering warmly into political life, and thus coming in contact with the politicians of that day, his recollection is stored with personal incidents and anecdotes, full of interest to one desirous of hearing of "by-gone days." He has served the city as Mayor, Alderman, Supervisor and Member of Assembly, and in 1848 was nominated



as an elector upon the Cass ticket. Until disabled by an accident during the past winter, he was remarkable for his energy and activity. Enfeebled somewhat by confinement, he still possesses a clear and active mind, and much contained in these sketches must have been lost to Hudson but for his retentive memory. In his departure from the city which he has known and where he has dwelt for nearly three quarters of a century, will pass away the last living representative of its earliest business men and interests.

Judge Barnard is among, if not the oldest of the native-born citizens of Hudson. He is a descendant of Stephen Paddock and Joseph Barnard, two of the Proprietors of the city. He was born in the year 1787, and is living in the house erected in 1784, in which his father and grandfather lived and died before him, and in which he expects to finish his days. During a visit to England and Scotland a few years since, in reply to the charge made in his hearing, that the "Americans were a people so fond of change that it could not be told one year where they would be the next," the Judge remarked that he was an exception, and stated the above fact. It could hardly be credited, and it was said such a fact in England would place him among the aristocracy. The very few years of schooling which in common with most of the boys of that day were allotted to him, were also commenced under the guidance of "Marm Wilson," with John C. Spencer and a numerous class of the boys of that period. Always an active business man, and particularly interested in the whale fishery when revived in 1829, he has done much to promote the prosperity of the city his ancestors helped to found, is now President of the Hudson River Bank, and has filled the positions of Alderman, Supervisor, Postmaster, Senator, Associate Judge and Presidential Elector. He is still vigorous, possessing a clear recollection of what he knew and has heard of Hudson, in its early days, and has also furnished for these sketches much valuable and interesting matter.

Mr. Skinner is a native of Columbia County but not of Hudson, and came here a boy in the year 1798, at the age of thirteen years. He commenced life as a clerk with Erastus Pratt, his uncle, then doing business as a merchant in the building now occupied by Batchellor's Bazaar. He has always been in active business, familiar and identified with the business interests of the city; one whose quiet tastes and retiring disposition have never led him into public life or station, yet who has sustained the character of a benevolent, useful and prominent citizen. Although nearly fourscore years have passed over him, he is yet erect, strong and active, still attending daily to his business and never failing to take his accustomed walk of miles before breakfast, which he

has followed for many years, and to the benefit of which his well preserved condition of mind and body bears the best testimony. May it be long yet, before he shall be called to give up his position as King in the "Bee-hive," or his active step be missed from these streets.

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In bringing these sketches of Hudson to a conclusion, it is due to himself that the writer should again state that when undertaken, there was no thought in his mind of their attaining the form of a book, or the facts they contain might have been presented with a more systematic and careful arrangement. From a general sketch prepared without particular reference at first to the order of events, they have been changed to a series, embodying much more and covering a much wider field than at first intended. Much may be hereafter brought to light which ought to have found a place in them, but all the information from sources available to him he has given, and they are submitted in the hope that they may prove of value, and not without interest.

# OFFICERS OF THE CITY.

## MAYORS,

APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL OF APPOINTMENT.

Seth Jenkins, April, 1785.	Robert Jenkins, February, 1815.
Thomas Jenkins, November, 1793.	John Talman, February, 1820.
Robert Jenkins, February, 1808.	Alexander Coffin, February, 1821.
John Talman, March, 1813.	

ELECTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL.

Rufus Reed, June, 1823.	Samuel Anable, January, 1832.
Rufus Reed, January, 1824.	Henry Smith, January, 1833.
Thomas Bay, January, 1825.	Henry Smith, January, 1834.
Thomas Bay, January, 1826.	Henry Smith, January, 1835.
Oliver Wiswall, January, 1827.	Robert G. Frary, January, 1836.
Oliver Wiswall, January, 1828.	Robert McKinstry, January, 1837.
Samuel White, January, 1829.	Allen Jordan, January, 1839.
Samuel Anable, January, 1830.	George W. Cook, January, 1840.
Samuel Anable, January, 1831.	

ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE.

Robert G. Frary, April, 1840.	Hugh McClellan, April, 1850.
Robert G. Frary, " 1841.	Peter S. Burger, " 1851.
Samuel Anable, " 1842.	George H. Power, " 1852.
Charles Darling, " 1843.	Joshua T. Waterman, Nov. 1852.
Cyrus Curtiss, " 1844.	Peter S. Wynkoop, " 1853.
Cyrus Curtiss, " 1845.	John C. Dormandy, " 1854.
Robert G. Frary, " 1846.	Joshua T. Waterman, " 1855.
Matthew Mitchell, " 1847.	Jacob W. Hoysradt, Dec., 1858.
Matthew Mitchell, " 1848.	Samuel Bachman, " 1860.
Hugh McClellan, " 1849.	

## RECORDERS.

Nathaniel Greene, 1785.	Joseph D. Monell, 1815.
Hezekiah L. Hosmer, 1793.	Ambrose L. Jordan, 1821.
Levi Wheaton, Jr., 1794.	John W. Edmonds, 1827.
Alexander Coffin, January, 1797.	Darius Peck, 1833.
Cotton Gelston, June, 1797.	Robert McClellan, 1843.
Elisha Pitkin, 1801.	Rodolphus P. Skinner, elected, 1849.
David Lawrence, 1802.	Stephen L. Magoun, " 1852.
Philip S. Parker, 1808.	Elijah Payn, " 1855.
Hezekiah L. Hosmer, 1810.	Henry Miller, " 1858.
Joseph D. Monell, 1811.	Henry Miller, " 1859.
Hezekiah L. Hosmer, 1813.	Alexander S. Rowley, " 1861.



## CITY CLERKS.

John Bay, 1785.	Gayer Gardner, 1815.
Levi Wheaton, 1787.	James Barton, 1821.
Ambrose Spencer, 1789.	Nathan Chamberlin, 1829.
Thomas Frothingham, 1804.	Fletcher M. Beekman, 1832.
Erastus Pratt, 1806.	Gayer Gardner, 1835.
Cotton Gelston, 1810.	Stephen L. Magoun, 1845.
Erastus Pratt, 1811.	William Bryan, 1848.
Abner Austin, 1813.	William Caldwell, 1851.
Jonathan Frary, 1814.	William Bryan, 1852.

## CHAMBERLAINS.

John Alsop, 1785 to 1790.	Silas A. Stone, 1833 to 1835.
Stephen Paddock, 1790 to 1802.	Edward Hyatt, 1835.
Robert Jenkins, 1802.	Henry Smith, 1836 to 1841.
Samuel Edmonds, 1803.	William Hudson, 1841 to 1844.
William Slade, 1804 to 1808.	Silas A. Stone, 1844 to 1846.
Robert Folger, 1808 to 1813.	William A. Dean, 1846.
Jacob Davis, 1813 to 1815.	Henry Jenkins, 1847 to 1849.
Robert Folger, 1815 to 1822.	John R. Currie, 1849.
Joseph Goodwin, 1822.	Robert Coffin, 1850.
Alexander Coffin, 1823 to 1829.	William H. Clark, 1851.
David West, 1829 to 1832.	Philip K. Burger, 1852 to 1855.
Stephen Currie, 1832.	

## CITY TREASURERS.

Robert W. Evans, 1855.	Ralph Utley, 1860 to 1861.
William H. W. Loop, 1856.	Ebenezer H. Gifford, 1861 to 1862.
Alexander Meech, 1857 to 1859.	Ebenezer H. Gifford, 1862 to 1863.
George B. Allen, 1859 to 1860.	

## SUPERVISORS.

Henry I. Van Rensselaer, 1787 & 88.	James Nixon, Jr., 1817 and 18.
Thomas Jenkins, 1789, 90 and 91.	Barnabas Waterman, 1819 and 20.
John Thurston, 1792.	Paul Dakin, {
Stephen Paddock, 1793, 94 and 95.	Thomas Bay, { 1821, 22, 23, & 24.
Elisha Jenkins, 1796, 97 and 98.	John Power, {
Robert Jenkins, 1799, 1800 and 01.	Thomas Bay, { 1825 and 26.
Cotton Gelston, 1802, and 3.	John Power, {
James Hyatt, 1804 and 5.	Charles Waldo, { 1827 and 28.
Moses Younglove, 1806.	Oliver Wiswall, {
Robert Taylor, 1807 and 8.	Charles Waldo, { 1829.
Samuel Edmonds, 1809.	Oliver Wiswall, {
Nathan Sears, 1810, 11 and 12.	Joseph D. Monell, { 1830.
Amariah Storrs, 1813 and 14.	Robert G. Frary, {
Robert H. Van Rensselaer, 1815.	Joseph D. Monell, { 1831.
John P. Jenkins, 1816.	

Robert G. Frary, {	1832, 33, 34, 35.	Peter S. Burger, {	1850.
James Mellen, {		Henry Miller, {	
Lovett R. Mellen, {	1836, 37, 38, 39.	John C. Dormandy, {	1851.
James Mellen, {		Allen Rossman, {	
Lovett R. Mellen, {	1840.	Philip K. Burger, {	1852.
Robert McKinstry, {		Edwin C. Terry, {	
Henry C. Miller, {	1841.	John C. Dormandy, {	1853.
Henry Hubbel, {		Frederick A. Gifford, {	
Henry C. Miller, {	1842.	Philip K. Burger, {	1854.
James Storm, {		Volkert Whitbeck, {	
Robert G. Frary, {	1843.	Cornelius Bortle, {	1855.
Leonard Freeland, {		Robert F. Groat, {	
Robert G. Frary, {	1844.	Henry Hubbel, {	1856.
James Storm, {		Edwin C. Terry, {	
Seneca Butts, {	1845.	William A. Carpenter, {	1857, 58.
Killian Miller, {		George H. Power, {	
Henry Hogeboom, {	1846.	Sylvenus E. Heath, {	1859, & 60.
Hiram Gage, {		Josiah W. Fairfield, {	
Robert G. Frary, {	1847.	Sylvenus E. Heath, {	1861.
Joseph D. Monell, {		John M. Welch, {	
Robert A. Barnard, {	1848.	Sylvenus E. Heath, {	1862.
Henry Waldo, {		William H. Crapser, {	
Peter S. Burger, {	1849.		
Volkert Whitbeck, {			

MEMBERS OF COMMON COUNCIL.

ALDERMEN.

ASSISTANTS.

Stephen Paddock, Ezra Reed,	Benjamin Folger, William Mayhew.	1785.	Dirck Delamater, John Ten Broeck,	Marshal Jenkins, Peter Hogeboom, Jr.
		1786.	Dirck Delamater, John Ten Broeck,	Thomas Frothingham, Samuel Walworth.
Stephen Paddock, H. I. Van Rensselaer,	David Lawrence, David Lawrence.	1787.	Dirck Delamater, John Ten Broeck,	Thomas Frothingham, Benjamin Chace.
		1788.	Dirck Delamater, John Ten Broeck,	Thomas Frothingham, Thomas Worth.
Stephen Paddock, Benjamin Folger,	Thomas Jenkins, James Nixon.	1789.	Dirck Delamater, John Ten Broeck,	Thomas Frothingham, Thomas Worth.
		1790.	John Ten Broeck, Thomas Worth,	Thomas Frothingham, Justus H. Van Hoesen.
Stephen Paddock, Benjamin Folger,	James Nixon, Justus H. Van Hoesen.	1791.	John Ten Broeck, Thomas Worth,	Thomas Frothingham, Claudius I. Delamater.
		1792.	John Ten Broeck, Claudius I. Delamater,	Thomas Frothingham, David Smith.
Stephen Paddock, James Nixon,	Justus H. Van Hoesen, Duncan Ingraham.	1793.	Claudius I. Delamater, Peter Rand,	David Smith, Samuel I. Ten Broeck.
Samuel Mansfield, Thomas Frothingham,	Matthew Marvin, Zachariah Seymour.			

Samuel Mansfield, Zachariah Seymour,	Claudius I. Delamater, David Smith.	1794. Peter Rand, Daniel Clark,	Samuel I. Ten Broeck, Paul Dakin.
Stephen Paddock, Alexander Coffin,	David Smith, Claudius I. Delamater,	1795. Peter Rand, Paul Dakin,	Samuel I. Ten Broeck, Daniel Clark.
Stephen Paddock, Alexander Coffin,	Joseph Shove, Reuben Macy.	1796. Peter Rand, Paul Dakin,	Benjamin Haxstun, Daniel Clark.
Joseph Shove, Thomas Power,	Samuel I. Ten Broeck, Russell Kellogg.	1797. Paul Dakin, William Ashley,	John Gunn, Claudius I. Delamater.
David Smith, Paul Dakin,	Russell Kellogg, Samuel Edmonds.	1798. Ebenezer Comstock, Samuel I. Ten Broeck,	James Nixon, Jr., Claudius I. Delamater.
Elisha Pitkin, Samuel Edmonds,	Thomas Power, Paul Dakin.	1799. Rufus Backus, Robert Taylor,	Robert Folger, Silas Rand.
Thomas Power, Elisha Pitkin,	Daniel Clark, Paul Dakin.	1800. Peter Van DeBurgh, Robert Taylor,	Ebenezer Comstock, James Nixon, Jr.
John Hathaway, Robert Taylor,	Ezra Sampson, Alexander Coffin.	1801. Erastus Pratt, Nathan Sears,	Peter Van De Burgh, John Hardick.
Benjamin Haxstun, Paul Dakin,	Samuel Edmonds, Robert Taylor.	1802. John Hardick, James Nixon, Jr.,	Samuel I. Ten Broeck, John R. Hallenbeck.
James Hyatt, Daniel Penfield,	Samuel Edmonds, Thomas Power.	1803. Prosper Hosmer, Ebenezer Rand,	Claudius I. Delamater, Jonathan Becraft.
Thomas Power, Daniel Penfield,	Prosper Hosmer, Cornelius Tobey.	1804. Amariah Storrs, Ebenezer Rand,	Claudius I. Delamater, Jonathan Becraft.
Paul Dakin, John M. Mann,	Erastus Pratt, Cornelius Tobey.	1805. Nathan Sears, Richard M. Esselstyn,	John Hardick, John Keeney.
John M. Mann, George Burch,	Thomas Power, Nathan Sears.	1806. Claudius I. Delamater, Nicholas Ten Broeck,	John Hardick, John R. Hallenbeck.
Paul Dakin, Nathan Sears,	Robert Jenkins, Samuel Wigton.	1807. Solomon Bunker, John Hardick,	John R. Hallenbeck, Henry Burchsted.
Paul Dakin, Nathan Sears,	Samuel Wigton, Henry Burchsted.	1808. Seth G. Macy, John Tompkins,	James Van Deusen, John Hardick.
John M. Mann, Samuel White,	Ezekiel Gilbert, Joshua Tobey.	1809. Alexander Van Alstyne, Obed W. Folger,	Thomas Whitlock, Samuel I. Ten Broeck.
Henry Burchsted, Paul Dakin,	Abiel Cheency, James Van Deusen.	1810. Josiah Olcott, Reuben Moores,	John R. Hallenbeck, John Hardick.
Henry Burchsted, Paul Dakin,	Abiel Cheency, Joshua Tobey.	1811. Reuben Moores, Josiah Olcott,	John Hardick, John R. Hallenbeck.
Paul Dakin, James Van Deusen,	Joshua Tobey, Daniel Clark.	1812. John Hardick, John R. Hallenbeck,	Peter F. Hardick, R. H. Van Rensselaer.



Joshua Tobey, Nicholas Ten Broeck,	James Nixon, Jr., Alex. Van Alstyne.	1813. John M. Harder, Samuel Stocking,	Barnabas Waterman, Samuel Beckley.
Barnabas Waterman, James Nixon, Jr.,	Nicholas Ten Broeck, Alex. Van Alstyne.	1814. Levi Hubbel, John M. Harder,	R. H. Van Rensselaer, Thomas Bay.
Paul Dakin, William Johnson,	Barnabas Waterman, Nicholas Ten Broeck.	1815. John R. Hallenbeck, John Hardick,	James Strong, Thomas Whitlock.
Judah Paddock, John R. Hallenbeck,	Barnabas Waterman, Jonathan Frary.	1816. Oliver Wiswall, Thomas Whitlock,	John Hardick, Alfred Gibbs.
Barnabas Waterman, Jonathan Frary,	John Talman, Judah Paddock.	1817. Oliver Wiswall, John Tompkins,	Thomas Whitlock, John Weir.
John Raynor, Christopher Hoxie,	Henry Dibblee, Judah Paddock.	1818. R. H. Van Rensselaer, John Tompkins,	Robert A. Barnard, Cornelius Miller.
Robert A. Barnard, John Raynor,	Seth Morton, Henry Dibblee.	1819. John Tompkins, Noah Gridley,	Cornelius Miller, William Woods.
Robert A. Barnard, Henry Dibblee,	Seth Morton, John Raynor,	1820. William Woods, John Tompkins,	Noah Gridley, William Rowley.
Charles Darling, Jonathan Frary,	John Raynor, Seth Morton.	1821. Noah Gridley, John R. Hallenbeck,	Philip White, Wm. H. Coleman.
Oliver Wiswall, Peter Van DeBurgh,	Joseph Goodwin,* Seth Morton.	1822. John R. Hallenbeck, Ezekiel Butler,	Philip White, Lionel U. Lawrence.
Oliver Wiswall, Job B. Coffin,	Barnabas Waterman, Philip White.	1823. John R. Hallenbeck, Ezekiel Butler,	Charles Waldo, Uriah Roraback.
Job B. Coffin, Samuel Coleman,	James Mellen, Philip White.	1824. George Coventry, Alexander J. Coffin,	Charles Waldo, Robert McKinstry.
Gayer Gardner, Luke Power,	James Mellen, Philip White.	1825. Seth G. Macy, John F. Jenkins,	Charles Waldo, Lionel U. Lawrence.
David West, Luke Power,	Solomon Wescott, James Mellen.	1826. Laban Paddock, Ezekiel Butler,	Samuel Anable, Henry W. Bessac.
William Hallenbeck, Luke Power,	Solomon Wescott, Samuel Anable.	1827. Henry C. Miller, Israel Platt,	William Nash, John I. Tobey.
Luke Power, Seth G. Macy,	Campbell Bushnell, James H. Teackle.	1828. Israel Platt, William Wight,	John W. Jenkins, John I. Tobey.
Henry C. Miller, John Hunt,	Samuel Anable, William R. Macy.	1829. Henry Anable, Jeremiah Bame,	Ansel McKinstry, Abm. I. Hardick.
Henry C. Miller, Henry Anable,	Samuel Plumb, William R. Macy.	1830. Benjamin F. Deuell, Wm. W. Treusdail,	Wm. Van Deusen, Wm. C. Ten Broeck.
Charles Darling, Robt. L. Livingston,	Abner Hammond, William R. Macy.	1831. Charles Dakin, John Chapman,	Samuel N. Blake, Charles Everts.

\*Died November, 1822; Ezra Reed elected to fill vacancy.

Chales Darling, Henry Smith,	Chester Belding, William E. Heath.	1832. Charles Dakin, John Chapman,	Peter B. Barker, Jacob C. Evarts.
Amos Carpenter, Robt. A. Barnard,	Austin Stocking, William A. Dean.	1833. Henry D. Parkman, Andrew Lane,	Peter B. Barker, Jacob C. Evarts.
Charles Darling, Job B. Coffin,	Austin Stocking, William A. Dean.	1834. Allen Jordan, John Chapman,	Jacob C. Evarts, Philip White.
Jacob Carpenter, Robert McKinstry,	John Chapman, William E. Heath.	1835. Allen Jordan, John V. Deuell,	Sidney S. Durfee, Jacob Van Deusen.
Jacob Carpenter, William Hudson,	William E. Heath, Robert McKinstry,	1836. Silas A. Stone, Alexander Dakin,	John V. Deuell, Frederick D. Gardner.
Isaac Power, Silas A. Stone,	Stephen W. Miller, Frederick Mesick.	1837. Stephen Currie, Stephen Waterman,	Nicholas Kittle, Wm. E. Heermance.
Robert G. Frary, Amos Carpenter,	William E. Heath, William Nash.	1838. William A. Carpenter, Henry Smith,	Robert Rossman, Henry S. Belding.
Robt. A. Barnard, Erastus Patterson,	Frederick Mesick, Charles Mitchell.	1839. George W. Cook, Charles Paul,	John Crissey, Hiram Macy.
Israel Platt, Oliver H. Allen,	Henry B. Van Deusen, Warren Rockwell.	1840. Joshua T. Waterman, Matthew Mitchell,	Solomon Shattuck, Silas W. Tobey.
Israel Platt, Matthew Mitchell,	Henry B. Van Deusen, Warren Rockwell.	1840. Joshua T. Waterman, Robert Coffin,	Thomas P. Nash, Ira D. Richmond.
Israel Platt, Matthew Mitchell,	Edmund Hatfield, Charles Mitchell.	1842. Joshua T. Waterman, George H. Power,	Thomas J. Weir, Allen Rockefeller.
George W. Cook, Charles Paul,	Edmund Hatfield, Hiram Macy.	1843. Milo B. Root, Benj. R. Millard,	Donald Ross, Samuel N. Blake.
Matthew Mitchell, Joshua T. Waterman,	Samuel N. Blake, Joseph White.	1844. George H. Power, William Hall	William Brown, Conrad J. Houghtaling,
Matthew Mitchell, Stephen Waterman,	Hiram Macy, Elihu Gifford.	1845. Jehu W. Smith, John C. Newkirk,	Henry Waterman, Volkert Whitbeck.
George Barker, Jehu W. Smith,*	Hiram Macy, Daniel Hoffman.	1846. George Storrs, Peter Decker,	Allen Rossman, Volkert Whitbeck.
George Barker, Benjamin F. Deuell.	Samuel N. Blake, Henry B. Van Deusen.	1847. George Storrs, Peter Decker,	John S. Anable, Conrad J. Houghtaling.
Robert Coffin, Joshua T. Waterman,	Hiram Macy, John Crissey,	1848. Philip K. Burger, Henry Dakin,	Augustus McKinstry, Henry Miller.
Robert Coffin, Philip K. Burger,	George Storrs, Conrad J. Houghtaling.	1849. Richard M. Remington, Abner H. McArthur,	Elbridge Simpson, James T. Perkins.
Robert Coffin† Philip K. Burger,	Elbridge Simpson, James T. Perkins.	1850. William Poultney, Jr., Alexander Meech,	Lorenzo G. Guernsey, George N. Simpson.

\*Died August 4th, 1846; William A. Carpenter elected to fill vacancy.

†Declined.

Richard F. Clark, Abner H. McArthur,	Allen Rockefeller, Samuel N. Blake.	1851. John T. Burdwin, George C. Tolley,	William H. Terry, Abel W. Baker.
Joshua T. Waterman, Richard M. Remington,	Hiram Macy, Henry Miller.	1852. H. I. Van Rensselaer, Theodore Burdwin,	George L. Little, George W. Baringer.
Benjamin F. Deuell, Sylvanus E. Heath,	Hiram Macy, Peter S. Wynkoop.	1853. William Moore, Wm. H. W. Loop,	Major M. Bullock, Wm. H. Crapser.
Rich'd M. Remington, Abijah F. Cook,	Wm. H. Crapser, Major M. Bullock.	1854. William French, Franklin Roberts,	Alvin Calkins, Peter Bogardus.

ALDERMEN.

ALDERMEN.

Robert H. Burns, Hiram Morrison,	Benjamin F. Deuell, William A. Carpenter.	1855. Jacob Ten Broeck, David D. Rose,	Peter Bogardus, Alfred Wattles.
Benjamin F. Deuell, Robert H. Burns,	Abner H. McArthur, James Batchellor.	1856. David D. Rose, Alfred Wattles,	Samuel Bachman, Henry Miller.
Henry J. Baringer, Jacob W. Hoysradt,	James Batchellor, Robert B. Lawton.	1857. Samuel Bachman, Henry C. Avery,*	Henry Miller, Wm. A. Jordan.†
Henry J. Baringer, Jacob W. Hoysradt,	James Batchellor, Robert B. Lawton.	1858. Samuel Bachman, Abel W. Baker,	Henry Miller, Peter Bogardus.
Ebenezer H. Gifford, James Best,	Abner H. McArthur, William Parmenter,	1859. Amiel Folger, Charles A. Stevens,	James N. Townsend, Allen Rockefeller.
James Best, Ebenezer H. Gifford,	David A. Rainey, William Parmenter,	1860. Amiel Folger, William H. Crapser,	James N. Townsend, Augustus McKinstry.
Ebenezer H. Gifford, Lemuel Holmes,	William Parmenter, Benjamin F. Deuell,	1861. William H. Crapser, Abram Bogardus,	Augustus McKinstry, James Gifford.
Lemuel Holmes, Robert W. Evans,	Benjamin F. Deuell, Augustus Behrens,	1862. Abram Bogardus, William H. Terry,	James Gifford, James N. Townsend.

\*Died September 16, 1857; Abel W. Baker elected in November to fill vacancy.

†Removed from the city in May, 1857; Peter Bogardus elected in November to fill vacancy.



## ADDENDA, ETC.

A few years since, in digging the cellar for the house now occupied by Mr. R. Cheeney, in Warren street, the remains of a human skeleton were found. It is thought from this circumstance that there might have been a burial place there in early times. This is possible, but we have no account of any other than those mentioned on page 4.

Elizabeth Bunker was the first female, but not the first child born in Hudson. John Van Hoesen, now a resident of Athens, born near the present residence of Duncan Hood, in 1785, is believed to have been the first. John F. Jenkins, now a resident of Albany, was born in the same year, a few months after Mr. Van Hoesen.

Ezekiel Gilbert was a representative in Congress in the year 1793, remaining such until the year 1797. Upon his first return from Washington he brought with him a piano, the first in the city of Hudson. He represented Columbia County in the Assembly in the years 1790, 1800, and 1801.

Thomas Jenkins was Presidential Elector in 1800.

Elisha Jenkins was Comptroller of the State in 1801. Secretary of State in 1806, 1808 and 1811.

In addition to the newspapers named, the Hudson Mirror and Columbia County Farmer was published by P. D. Carrique in the year 1838, and discontinued in the year following.

The cost of the first Presbyterian church, erected in 1790, was £865. We find the following individuals mentioned as subscribers to the building fund. Marshal Jenkins £100, Nathaniel Greene £40, Russell Kellogg £20, Samuel Nichols £17, John Hathaway £16, and Elisha Jenkins £12.

The Columbia Turnpike Company was the third chartered in the State, and not first, as stated on page 33. The Albany and Schenectady and Great Western were each chartered before it.

Daniel B. Tallmadge and Claudius L. Monell were Judges of the Superior Court of New York City, and not of the Supreme Court.

Robert A. Barnard is a descendant of Abisha and not of Joseph Barnard.









